SC strikes down poll survey ban

STORY ON PAGE A2

P15

GMA visits jailed rioters in Crame

BY JULIET LABOG-JAVELLENA

EXTENDING a hand of reconciliation to those who allegedly tried to overthrow her, President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday paid a surprise visit to 43 jailed supporters of ousted leader Joseph Estrada at the Philippine National Police headquarters in Camp Crame.

GMA/ A18

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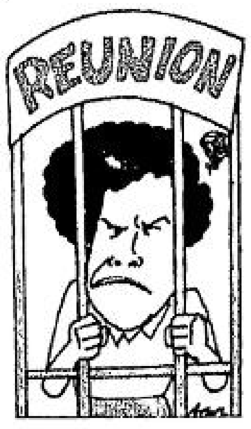
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLES
MAY 6, 2001 ★ 66 PAGES 6 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 147

Collegian: First in, first out

BY ALCUIN PAPA

SHE blazed a trail by becoming the first female editor in chief of the University of the

UP/ A17



Enrile ordered released

ERAP STYLE BUT...

Last stop of President Macapagal after doing the rounds Saturday to thank her Palace neighbors especially San Beda College for the aid and comfort given her presidency to overcome the Mendiola crisis. At the Palace Arlegui gate, she joined an Army contingent feasting on *pancit* and *siopao*.

ERIK ARAZAS

Supreme Court rules evidence so far is hearsay

BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC

SEN. Juan Ponce Enrile, who is charged with rebellion in connection with an alleged coup plot against the administration of President Gloria Arroyo, was yesterday allowed by the Supreme Court to post bail.

After closed-door deliberations lasting five hours, the high tribunal ordered the Philippine National Police to release Enrile upon his posting of interim bail of P100,000 with the Clerk of Court.

The tribunal, however, did not rule on the legality of Enrile's warrantless arrest and detention, saying the trial court should resolve the issue.

Government prosecutors had opposed bail on the grounds that rebellion is a capital offense, but the high court ruled that the evidence so far presented against Enrile amounted to hearsay.

Thirteen justices (three were on leave) promulgated the resolution at about 5:30 p.m. Copies were released to the media at about 6 p.m.

The decision was made in response to a petition that Enrile filed after his arrest Wednesday for allegedly masterminding the violent siege of Malacañang on May 1 by demonstrators loyal to deposed President Joseph Estrada.

Malacañang was unfazed by the decision.

"We respect the decision of the Supreme Court," said Ms Macapagal's spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao. "It bolstered what we have done. It was not a setback at all. (Enrile) was merely granted bail."

Tiglao said that by not ruling on the declaration of state of rebellion and the warrantless arrests, the Supreme Court "implicitly recognized" the President's move against opposition figures led by Enrile.

ENRILE/ A18

INSIDE PALACE

Under siege, Gloria kept cool

BY ROCKY NAZARENO

WHEN the pro-Estrada hordes were marching in, what was happening inside Malacañang?

To the last man, President Macapagal-Arroyo's Cabinet stood ready to defend her.

At around 3:25 a.m., May 1, the Palace received reports that the police barricade on Aurora Boulevard and Magsaysay Avenue was breached. A few minutes later the anti-government demonstrators had overwhelmed the Nagtahan-Magsaysay barricade.

By 4 a.m., the Palace received reports that more than 5,000 people had penetrated J. P. Laurel Street fronting the main gate of the Palace.

At this point, the Presidential Security Group (PSG) advised the President and her family and the Cabinet members who were present to go down to the driveway between the Presidential Residence and the main Palace building.

The PSG may have been preparing to evacuate the presidential family.

The events above were recounted to the INQUIRER by lawyer Gamaliel Asis Cordova, assistant of Presidential Chief of Staff and acting Executive Secretary Renato C. Corona, about the most tense moments during the biggest threat to the then 100-day old Macapagal administration.

Cordova would neither confirm nor deny the PSG evacuation plan.

But waiting at the back of the Palace were barges ready to transport the President and her family to the PSG compound across the Pasig River.

According to Cordova, tension started to grip the Palace at around 11.15 p.m. Sunday, April 29, when the Cabinet Cluster E, which is charged with problems on national security, met to assess the situation at the Edsa Shrine where the Estrada

UNDER/ A16

HEAVY military presence is maintained in and around Malacañang to ensure the worse is over; the state of rebellion is due to be lifted Monday.

ERIK ARAZAS

'Where have we failed the poor?'

BY MA. CERES P. DOYO

THEY wept for the people and for themselves.

Church workers, most of whom have worked among the poorest of the poor for many years, shed tears while reflecting on Monday's violence on Mendiola, where thousands of supporters of jailed ex-President Joseph Estrada went berserk, destroyed property, and hurt and were hurt by those who stood in their way.

"Where have we failed?" the church workers who work among the poorest asked almost in unison.

How have the poor come to this? Who led them there? Why couldn't they understand that their idol, Estrada, committed a grave crime against them, the very poor

WHERE/ A17

Erap, JPE deny plot to kill Gloria

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA

ARRESTED Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile yesterday denied allegations that he was part of a plot to kill President Macapagal-Arroyo and predecessor Joseph Estrada in order to install himself at the head of a junta.

But the President said an intelligence report showed that the alleged junta plotters planned to assassinate her even before she was swept to the presidency by the People Power II uprising in January, so that the conspirators could grab power for themselves.

"If (then President Joseph Estrada) was ousted, the junta did not want the constitu-

ESTRADA/ A18

PWEDE NA ULI MAGLABAS NG SURVEY!

Second FRONT PAGE

‘UNCONSTITUTIONAL’

SC strikes down poll survey ban

BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC

THE SUPREME Court yesterday declared as unconstitutional a Commission on Elections ban against publicizing the results of an election survey for a period of two weeks before a national election and one week before a local election.

The high tribunal said the Comelec prohibition was a "direct, absolute and substantial" curtailment of the constitutional right to free expression.

Voting seven to five, the SC justices said that although the ban was for a limited period only it still "constitutes a total suppression of a category of speech and is not made less so because (of the limited time)."

In ruling against the ban, the high court invalidated Section 5.4 of RA 9006, or the Fair Election Act, which prohibits the publication of surveys affecting national and local candidates within the moratorium period.

The Comelec had used this provision as the basis for its Resolution 3636 on March 1 imposing the ban.

The SC ruled that Section 5.4 was an unconstitutional abridgment of the freedom of speech, expression and of the press.

The ruling stemmed from a petition for prohibition filed by the Social Weather Stations Inc. and the Kamahalan Publishing Corp., the publisher of the Manila Standard newspaper.

The Comelec claimed that the prohibition would prevent the debasement of the electoral process through "manipulated surveys, bandwagon effect and absence of reply."

It said the impairment of the freedom of expression was minimal, "the restriction being limited both in duration . . . and in scope as it does not prohibit election survey results but only require timeliness."

The SWS and Kamahalan argued that the ban constituted a prior restraint on the exercise of freedom of speech without justification.

They pointed out that the SWS and other pollsters had conducted and published the results of surveys during the 1992, 1995 and 1998 elections up to as close as two days before the election day without causing confusion among voters.

The Supreme Court said that the interest sought to be promoted by the Comelec ban "can be achieved by means other than the suppression of freedom of expression."

It said the ban on media advertisements had already been lifted and candidates are now allowed to advertise their candidacies in print and in broadcast media.

"Indeed, to sustain the ban on the publication of survey results would sanction the censorship of all," the high court said.

Three justices -Leonardo Quisumbing. Arturo Buena and Sabino R. de Leon--were on leave.

Gloria launches charm offensive

FRESH from suppressing a rebellion allegedly led by the opposition, President Macapagal-Arroyo went on a political offensive yesterday ahead of the upcoming elections seen as a referendum on her leadership.

In a radio interview, Macapagal called on voters to elect her candidates in the May 14 legislative and local elections as she showcased her acts of magnaminity toward her jailed rival, ex-president Joseph Estrada and his arrested followers.

"Join the People Power Coalition" she told the people referring to her political alliance facing off against Estrada's Puwersa ng Masa coalition in the polls.

About 100 pro-Estrada supporters have been arrested so far over what the government called a violent attempted coup earlier this week, including the storming of the presidential palace by some 50,000 Estrada loyalists.

Ms Macapagal had declared a near state of emergency to quell the May 1 riots in which four people died and about 100 others were injured.

The president also played down yesterday the threat posed by some of the leaders of the failed coup who are still at large, saying they had failed to recruit any significant military or police defections.

She said that in recent meetings with some of the arrested rioters she "was moved by their plight because when I spoke to them, they had no inkling about politics. They were victims here."

She depicted them as the abandoned pawns of opposition leaders, some of whom have been arrested and others who are still subjects of a manhunt.

Two of the chief plotters still on the loose, Sen. Gregorio Honasan, an amnestied coup plotter and Panfilo Lacson, a former police chief, have been dubbed threats to national security.

But Ms Macapagal said she does not believe Honasan and Lacson could spark any military unrest, remarking "their connections are not that strong. They were not able to convince the generals" to defect.

Honasan, who mounted failed coup attempts in the 1980s, had earlier given out conflicting signals of his own, telling journalists he was "ready to die" but also saying he would not resist if caught.

Macapagal confirmed that the government was ready to arrest two unnamed mayors who had helped organize the violent Metro Manila riot.

(See related story on page A21.)

"The evidence is very strong against these mayors," she said without naming them.

Macapagal also said she had personally ordered more privileges extended to Estrada after visiting him in his detention site in a bungalow at a police camp just outside Manila on Thursday.

Estrada, jailed on April 25 pending his trial on plunder charges, was given longer visitation hours and allowed to take longer walks for exercise, Ms Macapagal said.

Officials have said that the power-grab plotters had used rioters in a grand scheme to eventually eliminate both Macapagal and Estrada in order to install a junta.

Opposition leaders blamed for the failed power grab have been widely assailed for allegedly instigating the violence and then denying any responsibility afterward.

Analysts said this disgust toward the opposition could translate into votes for Macapagal's candidates.

AFP

Plunder verdict hailed; Erap is next target

BY ANDREA TRINIDAD-ECHAVEZ

MILITANTS hailed yesterday the conviction by local trial court of a Bureau of Internal Revenue cashier for plunder, even as they called on the Sandiganbayan to show similar resolve in deciding the plunder cases filed against former President Joseph Estrada.

"We welcome the decision of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court. The decision is important because it gives us a glimpse into the future of the cases Estrada faces," said lawyer Argee Guevarra, legal counsel of the militant group Sanlakas.

Sanlakas was among the complainants in the plunder case filed against Estrada before the Sandiganbayan.

The QC RTC on Friday handed down a guilty verdict against Dominga Manalili and sentenced her to two terms of reclusion perpetua.

Aside from Manalili, also charged were Teopisto Sapitula, Lilia Organo, Joel Marcelo, Gil Erencio, Reynaldo Enriquez and Luis Se Jr.

Last year, the court dismissed the raps against Sapitula and Organo for lack of evidence. The INQUIRER had erroneously reported that Sapitula was at large. However, his lawyers clarified yesterday that he had been cleared

Ma of TV boss dies

LOURDES Martinez Garcia died yesterday. She is the mother of ABS-CBN President and Chief Operating Officer Federico M. Garcia.

Her remains now lie at the Capilla de San Francisco, Sanctuario de San Antonio. Forbes Park, Makati. A Mass will be held at 9 a.m. on May 9 at the Forbes Park Church and interment will be at 2 p.m. at the Naic Catholic Church, Nazarene Eternal Gardens in Naic, Cavite.

She is survived by Miguel & Nena, Manuel & Josefina, Reuben & Lina, Carmelita & Pepito Marquez, Leticia and Delfin Villaflor, Elvira & Marte Lubag, Federico & Gloria, Jose & Elsa and Alice & Menandro Nazareno.

In lieu of flowers, the Garcia family requests that donations be given instead to Bantay Bata 163 through the Office of the President, ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporations.

Maniquis, 79

EMMANUEL Adorable Maniquis Sr. of Gapan, Nueva Ecija, died on Wednesday at the age of 79.

He is survived by his wife, Catalina Mandilag Maniquis and children Sr. Celestina FMM, Editha, Emmanuel Jr., Elizabeth and Jose Edgardo.

His remains lie at the state at La Funeraria Paz on Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be announced later at Gapan, Nueva Ecija.

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CEBU CITY Date May 26, 2001 (Sat.) 2 p.m. Venue PARK PLACE HOTEL
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Palace summons Misuari on independence declaration

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo has summoned to Manila Nur Misuari, the governor of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, to explain the reported declaration of a Bangsamoro Republic in Mindanao, with him as its first president.

"We have asked Nur Misuari to come to Manila next week so he can explain this. He is a government official, he has a position in the SPCPD (Southern Philippines Council for Peace and Development)," the President said in an RMN radio interview.

The President said she has directed Interior Secretary Jose Lina and Eduardo Ermita, the presidential adviser for peace, to talk to Misuari.

The reported declaration of independence has been confirmed by ARMM officials allied with Misuari in the Moro National Liberation Front.

The MNLF, the mainstream Muslim secessionist movement, had accepted regional autonomy and concluded a peace agreement with the government in 1996. Misuari and other MNLF leaders subsequently became officials of the four-province ARMM.

In the same radio interview, Ms Macapagal cited reports of a "power struggle" within the MNLF.

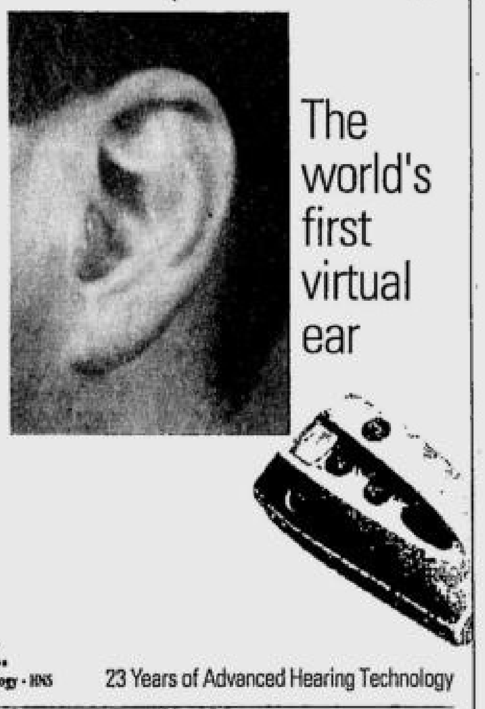
"I understand that there was a reorganization of the MNLF. I understand that he (Misuari) is no longer the chairman of the MNLF," she said.

A press statement purporting to come from the MNLF was sent to the INQUIRER yesterday, stating that Misuari had been stripped of all his powers as MNLF chair in a resolution issued after a meeting of the MNLF Central Committee in Manila on April 28.

Misuari's powers had been transferred to the 15-member Executive Committee, the statement said.

It quoted the Central Committee resolution as declaring its "loss of trust and confidence in the leadership of . . . Misuari and withdrawing their collective support for him all levels of organizational responsibility and obligations."

Misuari was, however, named chairman emeritus of the MNLF.



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SAMPLE BALLOT

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1. ARROYO
2. MONSOD
3. CHATO
4. TAÑADA
5. OBET
6. DRILON
7. FLAVIER
8. MAGSAYSAY
9. OSMEÑA
10. RECTO
11. PANGILINAN
12. HERRERA
13. VILLAR

Congressman/ Representative

Party List
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SAMPLE OFFICIAL BALLOT
MAY 14, 2001

Fill out this ballot secretly inside the booth. Do not put any distinctive marks on any part of the ballot.

SENATORS

1. **BOBBY TAÑADA**
2. **KIKO PANGILINAN**
3. MONSOD
4. OBET
5. CHATO
6. HERRERA
7. VILLAR
8. MAGSAYSAY
9. RECTO
10. OSMEÑA
11. ARROYO
12. DRILON
13. FLAVIER

Bakit si Bobby Tañada?

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LIBERAL

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IBOTO SA PARTY LIST

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☑ Lalabanan ang katiwalian sa gobyerno.

☑ Ibabalik ang kapangyarihan sa kamay ng naninindigang mamamayan.

☑ Aalagaan ang kinabukasan ng kabataan.

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LP

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Storm brews over Manila Times

By ALCUIN PAPA

ANOTHER storm is brewing at the Manila Times after staffers complained yesterday of delayed salaries, while owner Mark Jimenez' campaign for Congress has taken off.

Inday Espina-Varona, Times city editor, said editors and reporters have yet to receive their salaries for the second half of April.

She said the Times issue yesterday did not carry any stories from their regional correspondents because the latter have not been paid since March.

"We're undermanned. Some correspondents can no longer afford the daily commuting expense. Our regional correspondents have been slowing down in their coverage of events because they have not been paid for two months," Varona said.

Because of this, morale in the Times newsroom is low, according to deskperson Manny Marinay.

"Morale is definitely low here. No one wants to work. Reporters can't go to their beats or buy cellcards to call their sources," Marinay said.

Varona and Marinay said reports of the "hefty" amounts Jimenez has been spending in his campaign for a seat from Manila's sixth district has aggravated the situation.

"Reports of hefty campaign spending only adds insult to injury. The Times staff can't help but see his posters, can't help but hear about the 'Kusina ni Mark,' his generosity," Varona said.

Marinay added, "Why are there reports that his (Jimenez) campaign is awash in cash, while we starve?"

Varona said the employees do not begrudge Jimenez his candidacy. "But he should give us what is ours. The Manila Times staff and correspondents are merely concerned with their delayed salaries. The funds due us represent what we've already worked for."

The INQUIRER tried several times to get Jimenez' side but people manning his campaign headquarters said he was out. They also refused to give out his cellphone number, saying they were not authorized to do so.

In December 1999, 11 Times editors were fired by management who said they wanted "better" people. The editors who were axed claimed it was because they had refused to "kill" articles critical of the Estrada administration.

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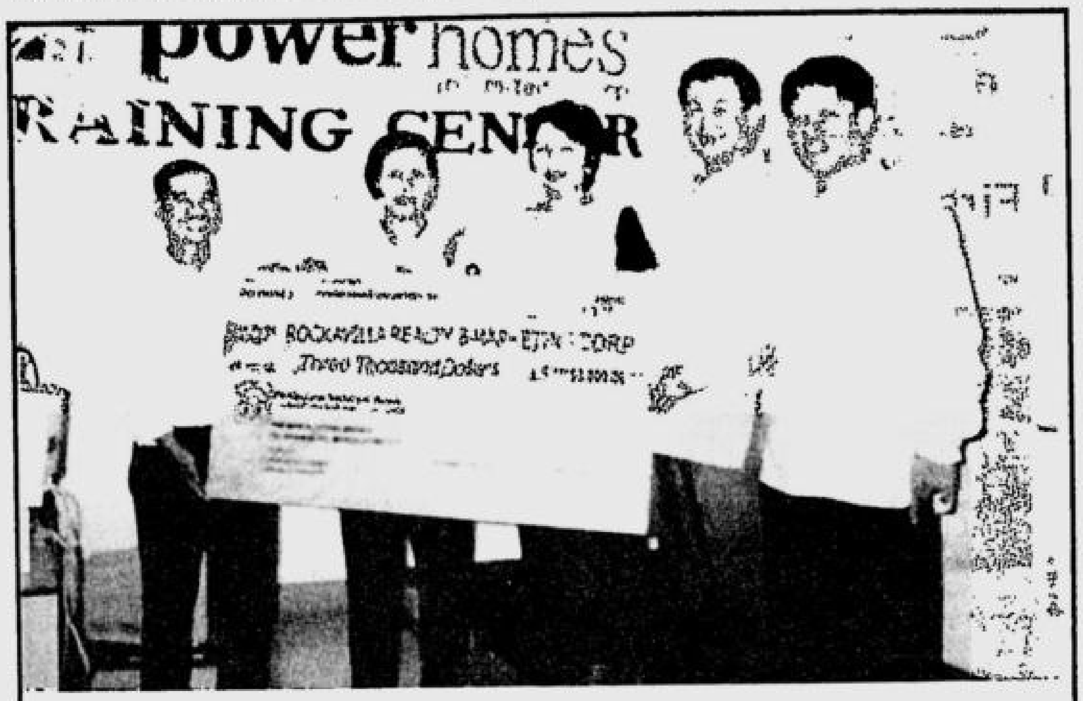

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Fire hits Greenhills computer mall

By **Blanche S. Rivera**

SHOPPERS and sellers scampered for the exits as fire engulfed the Virra Mall in Greenhills yesterday, destroying millions worth of merchandise mostly computer and electronic equipment.

Some 100 fire trucks and ambulances rushed to the scene at noontime yesterday, but police and fire authorities said there were no casualties as of presstime. No one was also reported trapped inside the burning building.

The fire, which started around 12 noon, was not yet under control four hours later, said Senior Supt. Danilo Cabrera, assistant chief of the Bureau of Fire Protection national office.

Guards manning the third floor of the Virra Mall reportedly heard an explosion from a fast-food outlet.

A tenant then broke the glass case of the fire extinguisher while other store employees packed up as much merchandise. Most of the stores however lost their goods to the blaze.

Virra Mall manager Teresita Mayoralgo did not give an estimate of the damage but said it would definitely amount to "millions" as the stores on the third floor of the mall were selling appliances and computers.

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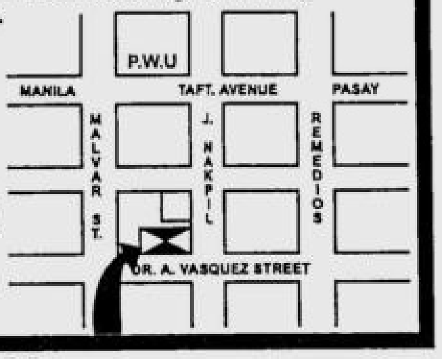

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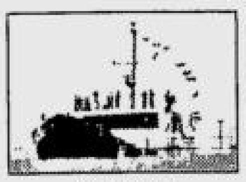

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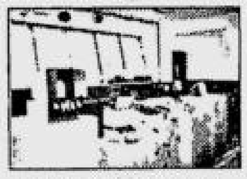

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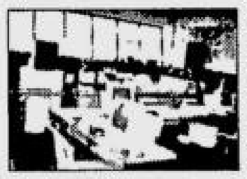

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OPINION

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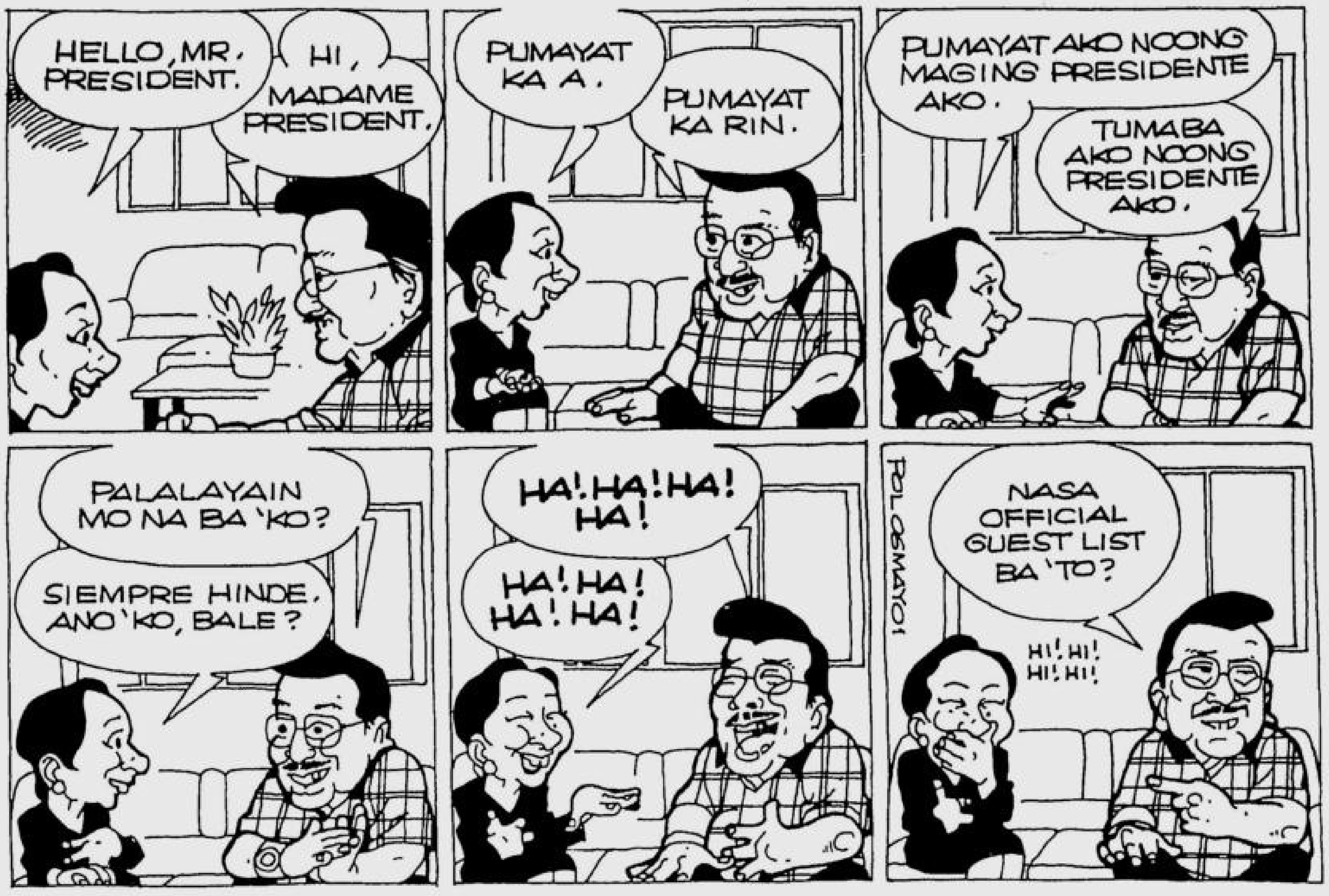
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TUMABA AKO NOONG PRESIDENTE AKO.
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SIEMPRE HINDE. ANO 'KO, BALE?
HA! HA! HA! HA!
HA! HA! HA! HA!
POLOSMAYO!
NASA OFFICIAL GUEST LIST BA 'TO?
HI! HI! HI! HI!

Return of civility

EDITORIAL

CIVILITY has returned to the turbulent political arena after President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo crushed an attempt by followers of former President Joseph Estrada to topple her government.

Responding to the invitation of Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, the President visited Estrada Thursday at his detention center in Sta. Rosa, Laguna. Presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao described the meeting as "very friendly" and "very cordial." Ms Macapagal said the visit was meant to show that she was looking after the comfort of Estrada. According to an official account, she granted some amenities asked by Estrada. The account highlighted the exchange between the two leaders, in which Estrada thanked "our president" for the visit.

The reference to "our president" should not be given too much political significance. Interpreting it as an implicit recognition by Estrada of the legitimacy of the Macapagal administration is reading too much meaning into the remarks. We would probably be closer to reality if we considered the remarks as a manifestation of civility on the part of the deposed president.

The most that we can say of the meeting is that it was a public relations gesture that helped reduce the tension arising from the bitter conflict over the ouster of Estrada, and most of all, the May Day attack of Estrada supporters on Malacañang. Ms Macapagal was clearly addressing a grievance that sparked the events leading to the Mendiola rioting: the arrest of Estrada and the shock experienced by his followers over the fact that he underwent the routine procedures of detention—i.e., fingerprinting, mug shots and sparse living quarters.

During the meeting, Estrada renewed his request for house arrest, a request his lawyers have pursued and over which many of his followers have been exercised. The President pointed out that this request may be addressed to the Sandiganbayan, where Estrada faces trial on plunder charges. That court has the power to grant the request depending upon the evidence submitted to it.

However, the basic issues of the conflict remain to be addressed. The trial will have to go ahead. Many of the alleged ringleaders of the attack on Malacañang have been arrested, although there are questions over why Estrada's sons, JV Ejercito and Jude, have not been arrested together with Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile and Ernesto Maceda for rebellion. There's evidence of JV and Jude leading the march at an early stage and agitating the crowd. And there's the issue of the allegedly illegal warrantless arrest and the declaration of a "state of rebellion."

These questions can be resolved in an atmosphere of civility—an atmosphere that can easily be dissipated by another violent attempt to grab power. While the government has survived its first coup, Ms Macapagal is sitting on the edge of political unrest raised by the nagging question of legitimacy and fueled by the grievances of the poor. After crushing the revolt of the poor, she has to win the confidence of the poor by showing that she is not only compassionate to them but also taking concrete measures to alleviate poverty.

Space tourists

FOREIGN COMMENT

CALIFORNIA tycoon Dennis Tito, who paid the Russians $20 million to take him to the international space station, was not the first space tourist. And the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) showed a selective memory in objecting to his superfluous presence.

The honor of being the first American space tourist goes to Sen. Jake Garn, the Utah Republican, who in 1985 wanted to ride aboard a shuttle flight. Because he chaired the Senate committee that oversaw Nasa's budget, the agency saw fit to oblige.

The next year, Rep. Bill Nelson, a Florida Democrat and the chair of the House subcommittee that oversaw Nasa's budget, wanted to do likewise and the agency also obliged.

Then, in 1998, after three years of lobbying, Ohio Sen. John Glenn returned to space aboard a shuttle. Glenn also had substantial say over Nasa's budget but his presence on the flight was billed as a "study" of the effects of space on the elderly. Glenn was 77. In fact, it was a valedictory victory lap for the first American who orbited Earth back in 1962.

There was no purpose to the lawmakers' presence aboard the shuttle other than they wanted to go and were in a position to make that happen. The difference is that Tito is paying his own way.

The Cincinnati Post

Backfire

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THE ANGRY protest of Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile against what he calls his unwarranted arrest brings to mind an earlier case in which he was the arrestor and not the arrestee. It was he who, as minister of national defense, along with Gen. Fabian Ver and Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, was sustained in that case by the pliant Supreme Court then that was ever ready to "legitimize" the despotism.

In that case of Garcia-Padilla v. Enrile, 121 SCRA 472, several petitioners sued for habeas corpus on the ground that they had been arrested and were being detained without a valid warrant of arrest. In a lengthy apologia sustaining the respondents and exalting the dictatorial powers of President Marcos, their petition was dismissed upon grounds that the present government may now conveniently invoke against the outraged senator.

The facts showed that on July 6, 1982, the soldiers pounced upon nine of the petitioners who were engaged in a conference, allegedly about their plot to overthrow the government. The soldiers carried a search warrant but no warrant of arrest. All the 14 detainees had earlier been placed under surveillance as suspected members of the Communist Party. The other petitioners were subsequently arrested, also without warrant.

In a lengthy paean to Ferdinand Marcos, the Supreme Court said in part:

"From the facts as above narrated, the claim of the petitioners that they were initially arrested illegally is, therefore, without basis in law and in fact. The crimes of insurrection or rebellion, subversion, conspiracy or proposal to commit such crimes, and other crimes committed in the furtherance or on the occasion thereof, or incident thereto or in connection therewith under Presidential Proclamation No. 2846, are all in the nature of continuing offenses which set them apart from the common offenses, aside from their essentially involving a massive conspiracy of nationwide magnitude. Clearly then, the arrest herein petitioners as well within the bounds of the law and existing jurisprudence in our jurisdiction.

"The arrest of persons involved in the rebellion, whether as its fighting elements or for committing non-violent acts but in furtherance of the rebellion, is more an act of capturing them in the course of an armed conflict, to quell the rebellion, than for the purpose of immediately prosecuting them in court for a statutory offense. The arrest, therefore, need not follow the usual procedure in the prosecution of offenses which requires the determination by a judge of the existence of probable cause before the issuance of a warrant of arrest and the granting of bail if the offense is bailable."

That decision, which should have been struck down by the Supreme Court when it was reorganized in 1986 to replace its puppet predecessor has, on the contrary, been affirmed and is therefore still part of our jurisprudence. In Umil v. Ramos, 187 SCRA 311, the Supreme Court said in its resolution dated July 7, 1990:

"Subversion being a *continuing offense*, the arrest of Rolando Dural without warrant is justified as it can be said that he was committing an offense when arrested. The crimes of rebellion, subversion, conspiracy or proposal to commit such crimes, and crimes and offenses committed in furtherance thereof or in connection therewith constitute direct assault against the State and are in the nature of *continuing crimes*." (Dural was arrested while lying in a hospital bed.)

To support this conclusion, the Court quoted the above excerpt from Garcia-Padilla. As usual, the only dissents were filed by Justice Abraham F. Sarmiento and me (although the number increased later when Umil met with a howl of protest from the public). In my dissent, I wrote:

"I dissent insofar as the *ponencia* affirms the ruling in Garcia-Padilla that subversion is a continuing offense, to justify the arrest without warrant of any person at any time as long as the authorities say he has been placed under surveillance on suspicion of the offense. That is a dangerous doctrine. A person may be arrested when he is doing the most innocent acts, as when he is only washing his hands or taking his supper or even when he is sleeping, on the ground that he is committing the "continuing" offense of subversion. Libertarians were appalled when that doctrine was imposed during the Marcos regime. I am alarmed that even now this new Court is willing to sustain it. I strongly urge my colleagues to discard it altogether as one of the disgraceful vestiges of the past dictatorship and uphold the rule guaranteeing the right of the people against unreasonable searches and seizures."

For his part, Justice Sarmiento said:

"As a law advocate during the regime of Marcos, I had challenged the soundness of Garcia-Padilla. I doubted whether it could stand up under the aegis of the 1973 Constitution. I still doubt whether it can withstand scrutiny under the 1987 Constitution."

It is curious that as many as five justices concurred only in the result in Garcia-Padilla, with Chief Justice Fernando dissenting in part and Justice Teehankee dissenting in toto. Umil, decided in a freer regime, was initially supported by the full Court without qualification except for the two dissents.

So there you are, Johnny. The past has returned to haunt you. Your best bet is to challenge the shameful doctrine that excused your arbitrary conduct when you were the dictator's hatchet man. The rule that impaled so many others during that dark era is now back to impale you. It's a deserved backfire, I should think, but let's hope that the rule is abrogated instead.

Sad, bad, mad, glad

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

SAD, very sad.

It used to be that May 1 was a happy day, connected with flowers and celebrations. But this year, May 1 was a day of rocks, tear gas and bloodshed. Sad, very sad to see Filipinos hurting and killing each other. The day was filled with frenzy, anger, violence and confusion. I could almost feel our motherland weep and bleed. The economy was affected again. The whole concept of people power that we take so much pride in as Filipinos was shattered by selfish, gutless and scheming people users! So sad, so very sad that they used the poor, the innocent, the powerless for their own agenda, using half-truths and slogans to lead them to sure carnage. Here was the perfect example of people using other people. Instead of empowering people, they used people. It was a simple case of people "use-er," not people power!

* * *

Bad, very bad.

In contrast to the Good Shepherd who is present and who protects his sheep (Jn. 10, 27-30), the so-called leaders of the Edsa mob were not present and did not stay with their sheep. They heightened the anger of the mob, led them to frenzy, then abandoned them and washed their hands of any responsibility when the whole thing failed. I am pretty sure they all would have come out and grabbed the credit if it succeeded. Very, very bad!

* * *

Mad, very mad.

I felt sadness and anger over the desecration of the Edsa Shrine. I suppose anyone would feel the same if your own house and your very own mother was disrespected (*binastos*). I carried the burden in my heart for days. I wanted to do something, but all I could do was pray and somehow accept that persecution is one mark of the church.

I am sure Mama Mary appreciated the sadness many of us felt when she was being maligned and disrespected. But in one of my prayers, it dawned on me that a mother loves all her children, even those who disrespect her. Mama Mary loves not only those who love her but also those who do not. It took some time for me to realize that Mama Mary's love is broader and greater than we can imagine or allow. She is telling us again to extend and widen our minds and hearts to reach out to the poor, the needy and the so-called unenlightened and wanting. Our Lady of Edsa is the mother not only of the rich and the holy but also—and especially—the poor, the lowly, the "Anawim Yahweh."

Next time you pass by Edsa, look at the statue. I could be wrong, but I think she is smiling more now. I wonder why.

* * *

Glad, very glad.

On the night of April 30, when the tension was building up, my brother, Manong Oscar, called me up by cell phone and shared with me a sight which gave so much hope and inspiration; that of hundreds of young people walking with their backpacks and their *barkadas* not toward Edsa or Mendiola but toward Antipolo. In the darkness of the night, these young people were making their pilgrimage on foot, to attend the May 1 dawn Mass. They were doing it out of personal commitment, without much fanfare or publicity, without provisions. Yes, the young people give us hope and inspiration. There is hope for our land! The young people have substance!

* * *

May 1 was Labor Day. We would like to commend those who really labored that day: the police, the military and the media. They not only missed their holiday, but risked life and limb to protect democracy. *Saludo po kami sa inyo*! Job well done.

* * *

A lot of criticism has been hurled at the mob that gathered in Edsa last week branding them as *hakot*, not principled, not well-behaved and lacking intelligence and discipline.

Whatever their behavior and their way of expressing themselves, we should not easily dismiss their plight. The church and the government must listen hard. Beyond the slogans and the shouting, what they are saying is that they are real and their sufferings are real. In fact, we as a church would do well to really ask ourselves why we are not connecting with them. The government must examine itself and find out if it is really concretely addressing the basic needs of the *masa*.

* * *

We are inviting you all to a concert of Fr. Raul Caga, SVD, and the 5th Gospel at Christ the King Seminary on May 26, 8 p.m. Call Tel. Nos. 711-1323 or 732-2736.

We are also inviting you to join a pilgrimage to Naju, Korea to meet the visionary Julia Kim from June 2-6. Call Tel. No. 721-7457.

* * *

A moment with the Lord.

Lord, you are with us whether we are sad, bad, mad or glad. Stay with us, Lord. We need you. Amen.

State of rebellion

CROSSCURRENTS

Antonio T. Carpio

THE MACAPAGAL administration's declaration of a state of rebellion has surprised many people. The term was unheard of before as a legal concept, unlike the familiar constitutional doctrines of declaration of martial law or suspension of the writ of habeas corpus.

On May 1, 2001, the nation awakened to hear the term invoked for the first time to quell a violent mob of 20,000 people that had attacked Malacañang before dawn that day. Radio and TV commentators theorized that the declaration was intended to authorize the police and military to arrest rebels without court-issued warrants. The political opposition, however, claimed the declaration was a disguised form of martial law meant to evade the constitutional requirement of congressional assent. Still others thought it was a virtual power not found in the Constitution.

During the hearing at the Supreme Court last Thursday, Justice Vicente Mendoza aptly described the term as a "legal surplusage." The declaration does not increase the powers of the President. It does not trigger the use of any reserve or latent presidential power under the Constitution.

On the contrary, the declaration, if taken seriously, may even diminish presidential powers. Under the Revised Administrative Code, a proclamation is issued to declare "a status or condition of public moment or interest, upon the existence of which the operation of a specific law or regulation is made to depend."

The declaration is embodied in Proclamation No. 38 dated May 1, 2001. If the declaration is a necessary pre-requisite before the president can call the Armed Forces to quell a rebellion, then this adds a condition for the exercise of the commander in chief's powers under the Constitution where no condition existed before.

The most serious misimpression, quite widespread, is that the declaration authorizes the police and military to make warrantless arrests. In fact, the declaration has no legal significance whatsoever. It does not expand or amend the existing law on warrantless arrests.

Under the Rules of Court, police officers are allowed to make warrantless arrests in three cases: First, when the person to be arrested has committed, is actually committing, or is attempting to commit an offense in the presence of the arresting officer. Second, when an offense has just been committed and the arresting officer has personal knowledge of facts indicating that the person to be arrested has committed it. Third, when the person to be arrested is a prisoner who has escaped from jail. The declaration of a state of rebellion never changed these provisions of the Rules of Court.

A charitable way to describe the term "declaration of a state of rebellion" is to say it is a layman's expression that acts of rebellion are taking place. This exuberant term, although legally meaningless, has unfortunately alarmed a lot of people. Businessmen and diplomats want the declaration lifted as soon as possible. The opposition has petitioned the Supreme Court to have it annulled. Media have debated extensively on its merits and demerits.

The administration has announced the lifting of the declaration on May 7, 2001. Even though it is meaningless to lift a declaration that is legally a surplusage, by all means let the declaration be lifted just to end all these misimpressions.

This is not to trivialize the attack on Malacañang by an armed and violent mob of 20,000 people under cover of darkness. The attack clearly qualifies as a rebellion, being a public uprising and a taking of arms to remove the President from office.

In People v. Almazan, the Court of Appeals ruled that 400 Sakdals, armed with *paltiks*, bolos and wooden sticks, committed rebellion when they seized the Cabuyao Municipal Hall in Laguna and proclaimed an independent Philippine Republic. The mob that attacked Malacañang carried *paltiks*, knives, Molotov cocktails and wooden sticks, sufficient to legally characterize the mob as an armed group.

The leaders of the rebellious mob that attacked Malacañang are unknown. Under the Revised Penal Code, if the rebellion is under the command of unknown leaders, any person who in fact directed the rebels or spoke for them is presumed to be the leader of the rebellion.

The politicians who incited with fiery speeches the mob at Edsa, and who urged the mob to surround and attack Malacañang, are deemed to be the leaders of the rebellion. Those who led the mob in the march to Malacañang are also considered leaders of the rebellion.

By presumption of law, the leaders of the rebellion are Juan Ponce Enrile, Miriam Defensor-Santiago, JV Ejercito and Jude Ejercito. The videotapes show that Enrile urged the mob to surround Malacañang, while Santiago urged the mob to march to Malacañang. Witnesses saw the Ejercitos leading the mob along Ortigas Avenue.

In Umil v. Ramos, the Supreme Court held that rebellion is a continuing crime, and a rebel can be arrested without warrant even if he is not engaged in an actual clash of arms with the government. The Supreme Court ruled that the arrest without warrant is "justified as it can be said that he (the rebel) was committing an offense when arrested" even if his arrest came a day after the clash of arms.

Enrile's arrest in his Makati residence several hours after the attack on Malacañang was a valid warrantless arrest because Enrile was deemed to have been committing the continuing crime of rebellion at the time of his arrest. This warrantless arrest is allowed by the Rules of Court.

The declaration of a state of rebellion has nothing to do with the validity of the warrantless arrest of Enrile and others similarly situated. The sooner we do away with this surplusage of a declaration, the better for the nation.

Distance, dislocation and the mob

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

THE LAST play that Actor's Actors Inc. mounted, "Five Women Wearing the Same Dress," was supposed to have its invitational premiere in January, in the week that People Power II exploded. AAI's Bart Guingona, who was directing "Five Women," would later write that during the play's gestation, he was often tempted to inject some political relevance to the admittedly "lightweight" comedy. Fortunately, Guingona was prevailed upon to resist the impulse and let the comedy be.

The next AAI production, "Mother Tongue," by Chinese-Filipino playwright Paul Stephen Lim, directed by Chris Millado, with Guingona in the lead, went onstage just as the pro-Erap "*masa*" multitude gathered once more in the vicinity of the Edsa Shrine. On its last Sunday matinee, a good number of the audience were in blue, in response to Jaime Cardinal Sin's call to wear the Marian color as a sign of silent protest against the desecration of the Shrine.

Is there some form of karma at work here? Are political forces conspiring to lend current events drama to AAI's productions?

This time around, there was more ground for letting some of the events of the day creep into one's thoughts as one delved into the world of David Lee, Lim's alter-ego in "Mother Tongue." Distance, dislocation, alienation, guilt, dissonance and devotion—these are themes that crop up time and again in the play. Indeed, this theatergoer could find much in common with the Chinese-Filipino English teacher in Kansas, for the events roiling across town (and about to blow up a few days later) had turned Manila into magic realist frontier, where the absurd met the sinister in the most unexpected places.

* * *

ON THE SURFACE, "Mother Tongue" is about language, about which our protagonist has much to say. Given his ethnic origins and the double dislocation of the migrant Chinese driven to find identity in the alien landscape of America, language is very much on David Lee's mind. Having gone to the United States primarily because he had "fallen in love with the English language" (and only incidentally to the travel agent who had lured him there), Lee now finds himself teaching English to native speakers. This even as he struggles to retain the Chinese (Fookien and Mandarin) spoken in his childhood. ("Tagalog," so his mother tells him, "is needed only if you wish to speak to the maids.")

But "Mother Tongue" is also about identity and self, the search for which drives the young Lee to flee the land of his birth which he cares for, but which will not even grant him the right of citizenship. It's his mother (or rather, his "mother's tongue") who will not allow him to settle, with comfort and a sense of belonging, wherever it is he finds himself. In the Philippines, she harks back to the land of his ancestors, which she left behind years before the War as a contract bride. And even in the United States, it is her voice that haunts him—asking when he will marry and give her grandchildren, when he will come home, when he will finally become the son who will make up for the loss of his two older siblings.

* * *

BART Guingona does not so much "play" Lee as inhabit him. Since much of the play is about language and identity, so, too is much of the part about subtle gradations of tone and accent, the persona of Lee the Tsinoy yuppie advertising hotshot blending seamlessly into Lee the older, wearier English professor. It takes some time to recognize the shift in time and place solely by the way Lee speaks the same language, English, but it is unmistakable. And it says much about Guingona's craft that he doesn't call undue attention to this sleight of hand (or tongue).

But the dramatic highlights really belong to Nieves Campa, who plays Old Lilian, Lee's ma. She is Lilian as she is today, or at least in 1988, the setting of "Mother Tongue." Though given many opportunities to exploit the role's camp and comedic potentials, she plays Old Lilian with humorous understanding, and in the end, luminous honesty. Miren Alvarez, who plays the young Lilian (and who is, incidentally, Campa's daughter) is the perfect complement, bringing with her the innocence and even naiveté with which the young Lilian confronted the new world of her adopted land.

* * *

BUT one can't end this piece without mentioning the people behind the production, particularly director Chris Millado and production designer Iñigo Elizalde. The play unfolds in Lee's classroom and office in Kansas University, but it really takes place in Lee's mind. To evoke this mindscape, Millado and Elizalde conceived of a bare stage crisscrossed by beams crafted out of light wood and rice paper. The beams serve as canvases for backdrops that illuminate or serve as ironic counterpoint to the words uttered onstage. Depending on their placement, they add depth and movement to the otherwise still images. The hubby, who had to be dragged to the GSIS Theater for the play, afterwards couldn't stop exclaiming how he, an artist himself, had been bowled over by the device.

But if theater serves not merely to entertain, but also to disturb, disrupt, dispute accepted and comfortable truths, then "Mother Tongue" succeeds admirably. With perfect timing (congratulations, Bart, for getting the mix right this time!), "Mother Tongue" illustrated the sense of alienation that many among the intellectual, bourgeois and comfortable class feel from time to time. We belong to this land and people (as Lee was in fact not allowed to feel), and we love them, and yet feel sometimes that our "true" home lies elsewhere, that somewhere along the way, the stork lost its way and dropped us by mistake in the Philippines.

It is a feeling the texting brigade must have felt even more keenly as they beheld the teeming masses at the Edsa Shrine, and watched with horror as the mob marched to Malacañang.

* * *

For comments, etc., send e-mail to rjdavid@inquirer.com.ph

A parable for our times

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

AT THE HEIGHT of the street fighting in Mendiola in the morning of May 1st, my daughter Kara, a television reporter, was sent to Edsa to cover the reoccupation and the cleanup of the shrine by nuns and members of the Couples for Christ. The little story she stumbled upon in that very site of resentment and inflamed passions of the previous nights changed her view of the Filipino. Her fears as a young mother of a child growing up in a strife-torn land were suddenly appeased, and she came home feeling more hopeful. This is what she saw.

A heap of rags began to stir at the foot of the stairs leading up to the stage. "Oh my God," said one well-clad street-sweeper. "There's an Erap supporter here."

The old woman, a hunchback, wore an orange Erap ribbon around her forehead and a large "JV Estrada for Mayor" pin on her shirt. She looked hungry and exhausted. She scanned the curious faces that circled her, and realized she had overslept and missed the march to Mendiola. Summoning her remaining strength, she stood up and broke away.

She saw a nun in a blue religious garb sweeping the pavement, and rushed in terror into her arms. The startled Sr. Aida Virtudes embraced and comforted her. In a soothing voice, she asked what her name was.

"Jessica," she mumbled. Lola Jessica seemed possessed by an inconsolable fear. She looked up to the nun, one of her eyes disfigured by cataract and her face deeply lined by years of exposure to the sun, and sobbed as if she needed to explain why she was there.. "I love Erap. We love Erap," she told the nun in Tagalog.

"I love him, too. We all love him. And I love you, too, as we all love our country," gently responded the kind-hearted nun. But the old woman's fear was great, and in an instant, she passed out.

Msgr. Soc Villegas carried her into the church, where Kara and Sister Aida tried to revive her. When she came to, Lola Jessica took a sip from a bottle of water and thanked the people who had helped her. Then she quietly slipped out of the place.

The story does not end there. In the afternoon, while covering the program that the Kilusang Mayo Uno put up in the Liwasang Bonifacio prior to joining the Labor Day celebration at the Edsa Shrine, Kara spotted Lola Jessica among the militant crowd. The old woman looked well and was selling cigarettes and candies. Gone were the pin and the incongruous ribbon around her forehead, but her box was plastered with the signature Erap orange sticker.

Kara asked her if she was all right, and the old woman assured her she was fine and that she was glad she could go back to work. Kara kidded her if her presence at the Liwasang Bonifacio meant that she had changed her mind about Erap. Lola Jessica smiled, and without hesitation, answered: "No. I still love Erap. I will always love him. Please thank the nun who helped me. Our beliefs may be different, but we respect one another."

My daughter couldn't say anything; she felt good and she was on the verge of tears.

It would be foolish, if not futile, to try to change Lola Jessica's views about Erap. In her heart, she truly believes that Erap has been good to the poor, that he really cares for them and gives them hope. He will always be their hero, the one who made good and became president so that he would lift them from their poverty. To them, Erap will remain an emblem of their own self-esteem. Nothing can change that conviction.

The virtuous nun's response to Lola Jessica's undying affection for Erap is the only correct one under the circumstances. She shows us that dialogues begin with compassion and mutual respect. She did not argue with this die-hard Erap admirer. She spent the rest of the day cleaning up the garbage that piled up at the shrine, never thinking for a moment that Lola Jessica had desecrated the place.

In the days following the siege of Mendiola, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo surprised everyone by visiting Erap in his Sta. Rosa, Laguna detention cell. Cynics may scoff at this attempt to reach out to the deposed president as nothing more than a clever public relations ploy.

In the evening, she showed up at the gym of the Western Police District where more than a hundred rioters were being held. She shook hands and exchanged peace signs with the stunned detainees. She asked that they be transferred to the custody of the Department of Social Welfare and Development, to be helped rather than punished. Foreigners will probably hail this as an act of magnanimity. But I am certain it is more than just magnanimity. It is compassion.

That is what Erap means to the masses. Oblivious of his many faults, they feel secure in his embrace. They trust him whenever he speaks to them, though we may think the lines come not from the heart but from a movie script. In contrast, President Macapagal often comes out as a cold, albeit hardworking, person. She is focused and task-oriented but socio-emotionally detached.

She cannot be and should not be another Erap. She must craft her own identity in the consciousness of our people. If she tries hard to locate in her own heart the wellsprings of Filipino goodwill and compassion as she did when she visited Erap and the Mendiola rioters, she may find a role in which she can truly feel at home. There is no reason why she cannot be both an efficient and a healing president.

Erap is the poor's buddy and will always be. Perhaps the President can be their "Ate Glo," the older sister who forsook her own personal happiness in order to see the whole family through.

* * *

Comments are welcome at rdavid@pacific.net.ph

An oxymoron

COMMENTARY

Minyong Ordoñez

THE SMART aleck who coined the phrase "moral terrorist" didn't know he came up with an oxymoron. Oxymoron is a contradiction. That smart aleck who wanted to impress the public contradicted himself. Shoddy logic.

Let's understand the word "moral" clearly. The dictionary defines it as "conforming to accepted and established principles of right conduct" (the opposite of *walang prinsipio*).

What about terrorist? To Webster, he is "a person who uses violence and threats to intimidate or coerce for political purposes."

So, how in heaven's name can morals be the cause of terrorism? How can those who believe in morality become terrorists?

Morals is the foundation of everything that's good in thought and in deed. The dictates of morality make life coherent, harmonious and spiritual—primary conditions for the health and sanctity of our nation state.

Moral terrorists. Sounds scary, doesn't it?

I think the smart aleck just wanted to shaft with sarcasm those who are objecting to the mass merchandising of porn, soft porn, artsy-fartsy sex, supposedly done artistically by profit-mad financiers and directors, who in the same snorting breath, are championing the cause of freedom of expression.

If these producers, directors and scriptwriters honestly believe that their films have substance and relevance for the psychological stability and sexual maturity of our moviegoers, then porn, soft porn, artsy-fartsy sex may as well be fodder for all Filipinos inside their homes as well as in universities and mass media outlets. If this obscene scenario happens, millions of our citizens may puke and regurgitate at regular intervals. Too much greasy and spicy stuff make our gastric glands revolt.

What's more, millions of parents will find it quixotic to continue playing their roles as teachers and nurturers of character formation. The raising of children into upright, dignified and respectful citizens may become irrelevant.

That's why the showing of porn, soft porn, artsy-fartsy sex cannot be viewed from the adult perspective alone. Youth and children must be part of the equation because sex on VHS, CD and film are readily available at your friendly shopping centers.

Vigilance is justified. This country is a Christian society, not atheistic, agnostic or socialist.

Great societies and civilizations derive their culture from great minds: the philosophies of Plato, Aristotle, Confucius and St. Thomas Aquinas; the transcendentals of Jesus Christ, Gautama Buddha and Mohammed; the images by Giotto, Michelangelo, Da Vinci or Bernini; the music of Bach and Beethoven; the literary works of Homer and Shakespeare. All these immortals conveyed their arts and messages along the paradigms of Truth, Beauty, Goodness and Unity, the four foundations of human excellence.

But be discerning, boys. There are pop and whimsical philosophies which single-mindedly preach sensual pursuits. Don Juanism (perpetual erection). Kama Sutranism (1,001 positions). Hugh Hefnerism (bosomy bunny playmates), these isms are bundled and sold in a one-stop shop called hedonism.

Caveat emptor. These isms eschew dignity, durability and sanctity of the family as an institution. It conveniently ignores the fact that the family is the unit that makes up for a stable, respectable and a unified people. Consult your *inay* and *lola*. Their maternal and parenting instincts will give more of the right answers about family matters.

Now, back to moral terrorists. Here's a clearer picture. Moral terrorists are actually decent individuals (derisively called by smart alecks as bigots and hypocrites) who represent millions of decent families. They muster enough guts to stand up and be counted in demanding wholesome and pollution-free environment for their children's sake. They bravely confront some coarse, frantic segments who think that they are in the forefront of defending free speech.

Allo! You don't rank at all in the same class as the revered and authentic guardians of free speech: Chino Roces, Pepe Diokno, Lorenzo Tañada and Ninoy Aquino. These heroes fought for the highest ideals of decency, honor, and justice. Smut or artsy-fartsy sex as cause célèbre for marching to Mendiola? Below their dignity.

I must now salute two heroines of the movie world: Marilou Diaz-Abaya and Laurice Guillen. We owe these exceptional artists our gratitude and admiration for making great movies ("Rizal," "Muro Ami," "Tanging Yaman").

I've seen their films. They are sensitive and complimentary to our Filipino culture. They are movies with substance, anchored on family values. They spell out the dignity of human beings. All are handled with subtle verve, richly textured, crafted with finesse. They are enriching and rewarding. They are worth every centavo. We love you, ladies.

Now if that smart aleck who coined "moral terrorist" and his cohorts still fancy themselves as contributors to the improvement of the psychological health and the aesthetic aptitudes of their callow customers, I've got bad news for them. It doesn't work that way fellas. So stop fooling yourselves.

Closer to contemporary times, observe porn permissive societies like Sweden and Norway. These countries have very high suicide scores. They are also into killing of unwanted babies, very sick *lolos* and *lolas* in the name of love. They are open to same sex marriage. Perhaps in the future, nuptials between a woman and a Doberman.

Back to history, why do you think the entire population of Sodom and Gomorrah ended up cremated alive? *Walang* censorship *doon! Binalewala lang ang Panginoong Diyos.*

And didn't emperors Nero and Caligula, both uncensored maniacs and public debauchers, symbolize the fall of the Roman Empire?

Recite the "Our Father." There's the emphatic line, "lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." That's the Son of God talking. Jesus understands our human weakness. Hence, the plea.

Finally, please stop calling people fighting for truly good causes moral terrorists. There should be a more proper term. Something simple, clear and accurate.

How about Christians? Yeah, Christians! That's more like it.

Minyong Ordoñez is chair and chief executive officer of Basic Advertising.

THEY SAID

Burden of mismanagement

"Why is it that every time a government-controlled agency is mismanaged they always pass on the burden to the public?"

—Joji Ilagan-Bian of the Mindanao Business Council opposing the planned hike in Social Security System contributions

Privileged prisoner

"Why should a big-time politician be given big-time privileges for his big-time crimes?"

—Lawyer Leonard de Vera on comforts to be given deposed President Joseph Estrada in jail

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JUAN V. SARMIENTO JR., Editor

Senatorial candidates oppose legislated wages

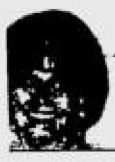
ORGANIZED workers seeking a legislated wage increase to help them cope with spiraling prices are going to be disappointed with the senatorial candidates.

Most of the candidates prefer tripartite regional wage boards setting the minimum wages in the country. Some want labor and management to determine wage levels through collective bargaining agreements.

A few believe that legislating wages can be resorted to only in exceptional circumstances—when regional wage boards either fail to act expeditiously or grant workers "unfair" wage increases.

In this issue, Voter's Voice also asked the candidates about a proposal to legalize prostitution and how to put a closure to the Marcos ill-gotten wealth issue.

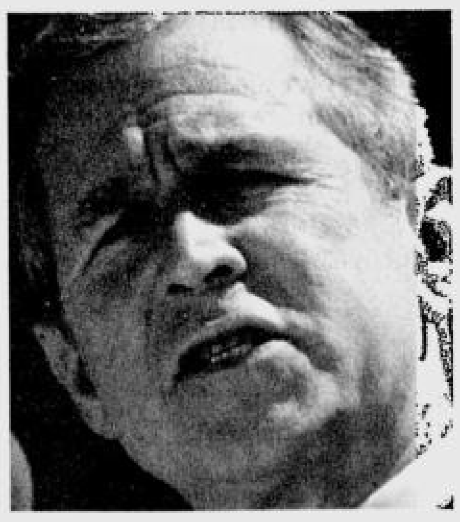
This section is postponing until next week the publication of the candidates' net worth, assets and liabilities, taxable income for last year and taxes paid because only a third of the candidates have so far furnished us with data on their finances. We hope the rest are as transparent.

Senatorial Candidates (Interviews by Juliet Javellana, Christine Avendaño, Dona Pazzibugan, Volt Contreras and Gerald Lacuarta)	Legalized Prostitution	How to put closure to Marcos ill-gotten wealth	Legislated Wages
Adaza, Homobono (Independent)	No, definitely not. It's bad enough that there's widespread prostitution in our country and it will be worse if it is legalized. It's demeaning to human beings.	Let the chips fall where they may because guilt or innocence will be settled once and for all.	I'm in favor of a legislated wage hike, but by how much will be determined in a public hearing.
* **Angara**, Edgardo (LDP, Pwersa ng Masa)	No, because it is against my morals and deeply held beliefs.	Explore all options just to put this thing behind. The speedy resolution of the cases should be complemented by the proper use of the recovered assets and money.	
Arroyo, Joker (Ind., People Power Coalition)	No. We have this unfortunate tendency of legalizing what we cannot curb.	We can not yet put a closure because there are still so many claims hanging.	We have regional wage boards to take the place of Congress in implementing wage hikes.
* **Canoy**, Reuben (LDP, Pwersa)	Yes, so that the government can regulate it, for health and security reasons.	Leave it to the proper courts to settle.	I'm against legislated wages, but in favor of wage negotiation between labor and management.
Chato, Liwayway (Ind., PPC)	Nope. It's debasing to women. I'm not for legalizing something that is not moral. Give women the right jobs.	It has to be decided by the Supreme Court or Sandiganbayan. What is difficult is finding the Marcos wealth and dealing with the Marcos estate.	We have to wait for the economy to recuperate from the plunder committed by ousted President Joseph Estrada before we can realistically decide on this issue.
* **De Castro**, Noli (Ind., Pwersa)	I deplore prostitution. I do not believe that we have, as a society, reached a point of frustration that we must legalize a trade that demeans the value of human life.	The so-called Marcos wealth issue can only be terminated through a settlement that transcends individual interests.	Regional tripartite wage boards should promptly address wage increases. Workers should be assured of their just rewards and employers of reasonable return on investments.
Defensor Santiago, Miriam * (PRP, Pwersa)	Yes, because no leader anywhere has ever succeeded in eliminating the world's oldest profession. Better to negotiate than to ignore.	Either negotiate with the Marcos family or send them to jail.	At first blush, it's attractive because it will alleviate poverty. But in the long run, it will force industry to close down. Wage increases should be the result of market forces, not of law.
Drilon, Franklin (Ind., PPC)	No. It erodes the moral fiber of our society.	By having all issues in the courts decided once and for all.	I leave that to the regional wage boards. But if the wage boards cannot act on it, I'm willing to have it legislated by Congress.
 **Ejercito Estrada**, Luisa * (Ind., Pwersa)	No. I heard the arguments raised in favor of legalization. That legalization would save prostitutes from harassment, abuse by pimps and that their health can be better attended to.	I have no idea.	Regional wage determination is better than legislated wage-fixing. Wage legislation takes too long. Workers' participation in tripartite wage boards should be strengthened instead.
* **Enrile**, Juan Ponce (Ind., Pwersa)	I am not in favor because prostitution destroys the moral fiber of our people and is an affront to the dignity of women. I don't believe anyone deep in his or her heart is a willing prostitute	The only way to put a closure to the Marcos wealth issue is for the courts to speed up the process of determining which assets are ill-gotten.	This would settle a lot of misunderstandings between workers and employers. But it would only work to everybody's benefit if legislators conduct a comprehensive assessment of the situation.
Flavier, Juan (Lakas, PPC)	Yes, but we are not ready for it.	Pursue the cases until we get the evidence and recover the wealth.	I prefer the wage boards but when they do not act on wage increases, or give increases that are not reasonable and fair, I'll be willing to go for a legislative wage hike.
Herrera, Ernesto (Lakas, PPC)	I'm against it, completely.	If there's failure on the part of the justice department and Ombudsman to support their cases against the Marcoses, then we must work for a compromise deal.	I have objections to that because the process is too long. In over 10 years, there was only one legislated wage increase—P25 in 1989. I believe in the work of the regional wage boards.
Honasan, Gregorio * (Ind., Pwersa)	No. Our culture and people are not yet ready for it.	Let the courts decide on the fate of the Marcos wealth based on consolidated, accurate information on the alleged ill-gotten wealth.	A legislated wage provides protection to workers but some firms openly violate it. I am pushing for amendments to RA 697, which allows gain sharing, fiscal incentives and other perks for workers.
* **Lacson**, Panfilo (LDP, Pwersa)	No. This would spawn other evils in society. What we need to do is address the root cause of the problem which is poverty. We need to produce more jobs for our people.	The national leadership should once and for all sit down with the Marcoses and settle this issue with utmost transparency.	I support wage boards.In the Senate, I intend to come up with a package of benefits for our workers so as to compensate for what their basic salary may not be able to provide them.
Lozano, Oliver (KBL)	I am not in favor of legalizing prostitution per se but I am in favor of regulating the entertainment business. Prostitution is something difficult to define.	Through the resolution of the class suit submitted for decision with the Court of Appeals. The escrow deposit with the PNB should be returned to the Marcoses.	No, because the basic principle in labor-management is you don't kill the goose that lays the golden egg. Wages should be set by collective bargaining.
Madrigal, "Jamby" (LDP, Pwersa)	No. The Philippines should not be known as the prostitution capital of Asia. It goes against our spiritual teachings.	Closure should be done in a just way. If (the case against the Marcoses is) proven, the human rights victims should get their share. It's long overdue.	That needs a lot of further study. We do not want to price ourselves out of the market. That would be bad for our exports.
Magsaysay, Ramon Jr. (Ind., PPC)	Prostitution can be reduced drastically with economic emancipation. I am against it but there must be an alternative.	There should be a settlement. A settlement must be based on available information on what truly belonged to the late President and to the victims of martial law.	I'm not in favor of this. But so far the wage boards have not been realistic to the needs of the workers. We should push for legislated wage hike as a last resort.
* **Mercado**, Orlando (Ind., Pwersa)	No. Legalizing prostitution will only further marginalize impoverished Filipinas and provide a legal cover for pedophilia and worse offenses.	By auditing the PCGG's efforts and identifying which pending cases (here and abroad) have to be prioritized.	Regional wage boards determine minimum wages to even out economic distortions among regions and to allow stakeholders to maximize their participation in tripartite discussions.
Monsod, Solita (Aksyon Demokratiko, PPC)	That's a tough one for me. There are costs and benefits in legalizing prostitution and at the very least, it should be ventilated and debated thoroughly in public.	There can be no closure until justice is rendered. If it takes 20 years, let it be. But let us persevere in going after the ill-gotten wealth.	Wage increases should be negotiated firm by firm, industry by industry as long as both parties have complete information. I will go for full disclosure of books during CBAs.
Morato, Manuel (Independent)	No. It's a very private matter.	Speed up the judicial process.	Legislating wages is not always the solution because the wage earner is subjected to higher deductions nullifying the "increase." Workers are better off asking for more benefits.
Navarro, Rod (Independent)	Well, other countries actually favor it, but morally I am not in favor because I don't believe Filipinos are ready for it.	If they are guilty, jail them and collect the money for the people and distribute it as early as possible. The economy needs it very badly.	I'm in favor of a legislated wage hike but I do not know by how much at this point.
Osmeña, Sergio III (PDP Laban, PPC)	Huh? I'm against that. Prostitution is not morally acceptable.	It's a legal problem and it's the courts that can put closure to that, not the legislative or executive department.	That is difficult because there are different conditions in different parts of the country. So, that should be worked out by the wage boards.
Pagdanganan, Roberto (Lakas, PPC)	No, no way. We should give them job opportunities instead.	Exhaust all legal means to pursue the case.	In the long run, what we need is to create more jobs opportunities, which would make the wage boards irrelevant. For the moment, we still need the wage boards.
Pangilinan, Francis (Liberal Party, PPC)	No. I believe it is not right.		
Puno, Ricardo Jr. * (LDP, Pwersa)	I am against legalizing prostitution. I am concerned that such a move would only encourage immorality, particularly among our youth.	It has been virtually impossible to work out a compromise solution acceptable to all. The only recourse is a speedy resolution by the courts of all pending cases.	Congress does not need to legislate a wage adjustment because such a task has already been delegated to regional wage boards.
* **Rasul**, Santanina (Ind., Pwersa)	No. Men and women should not be subjected to such dehumanizing trade. I would rather focus on providing more opportunities for alternative trade.	Government agencies need to have political will to conclude cases.	Although market forces should be the final arbiter of wages, the wage earners should be given protection. CBAs and the wage boards should be supported.
Recto, Ralph G. (Lakas, PPC)	I'm not for it. We should ensure that they are provided with better opportunities so they don't resort to prostitution.	Let the wheels of justice turn. Let's look at how the Senate can speed up the resolution of the cases.	I'm not saying no. I'm more in favor of reducing income taxes for those earning P180,000 a year and below, and exempting a couple with four children from the withholding tax.
Sabio, Camilo (Independent)	No, but you know this would depend on the circumstances.	Just pursue it to its conclusion no matter how long it would take. Follow the Constitution and pertinent statutes.	It depends on the circumstances.
Tamano, Ombra (LDP, Pwersa)	No. In Islam, prostitution is a very serious sin.	We're not sure if it's (Marcos wealth) just part of the people's imagination.	I don't believe in legislated wages because *kawawa naman ang* management, *babagsak*. Collective bargaining agreements should continue.
Tañada, Wigberto (Liberal Party, PPC)	I would rather that the government provide prostitutes with training that will help them get employment.	I hope the cases would be finally tried so a decision would be rendered. If the Marcoses return the stolen wealth, human rights victims should get compensation.	*Mas maganda kung sa* CBA *idadaan. Kaya lang 'di malakas ang ating mga unyon. Ang* wage boards *'di rin mabilis ang aksyon.* So, we may need a legislated wage hike as a last resort.
Villar, Manuel Jr. (Ind., PPC)	No. I don't know but maybe our society is not prepared for legalization of prostitution.	*Hindi mo maisasara yan* unless *may* chance *na may hahabulin pa.* The local court cases can be decided once and for all. So the courts can put a closure to that.	I'm for regional tripartite wage boards, but in exceptional circumstances, a legislated wage increase should be given to workers.
Yasay, Perfecto (Independent)	I'm against it. You can never legislate against standards of morality. The laws that we pass are reflective of the kind of people we are from the viewpoint of moral standards.	If we don't have any evidence about this wealth being ill-gotten, then let's forget all about it. Just make sure that all of this will not be repeated again.	I'm not in favor of a national wage increse. I'll go for regional, if not local, depending on the living standards of a locality.

* Submitted written answers

Page design and illustration by Ernie Sambo

Bush orders review of all China-US gov't contacts



BUSH

WASHINGTON—In a move that could further strain Sino-US ties, President George W. Bush has ordered federal agencies to review contacts with China "on a case-by-case basis," the White House said Friday.

The purpose is "to make a determination on a case-by-case basis about which of those contacts are the most positive and productive for the United States and which may not be," Bush spokesperson Ari Fleischer told reporters.

The departments of state and defense are conducting their own reviews, while Bush's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, is overseeing reviews by other agencies, said Fleischer.

A US State Department official, who asked not to be named, said the review affected official meetings and embassy events—in Washington or Beijing—that might involve contacts between US and Chinese officials.

But the official emphasized Washington was not reviewing relations with China. "We're not talking about recalling an ambassador," the official said. "On the contrary, the president has just announced his nominee for ambassador to China."

Fleischer's comments came a day after Bush lashed China's human rights record and indicated that the United States would "review all opportunities to interface with the Chinese."

"If it enhances our relationship, it might make sense. If it's a useless exercise, and it doesn't make the relationship any better, then we won't do that," Bush said told reporters.

Relations have suffered heavy strains recently, with a tense 11-day standoff over a US spy plane that collided with a Chinese fighter April 1, Bush approving a major arms package for Taiwan and saying he would defend the island against an attack by Beijing, and his sharp words about China's human rights record.

"What the Chinese must understand is that we'll be firm in our philosophy, consistent in our beliefs, and we want to work to have a relationship that is a positive relationship for both countries," Bush said Thursday.

Meanwhile, computer hackers from both sides appeared to be escalating their online war as a coordinated attack limited access to the White House Internet site for several hours Friday, security experts said.

The Virginia-based security firm iDefense said the attacks made the White House site inaccessible for at least three hours.

"It appears to be some sort of denial of service attack," said Michael Cheek of iDefense, referring to a tactic used to flood a website with useless information in an effort to shut it down.

There was no immediate confirmation from the White House.

Cheek said the attacks on the White House came after a Chinese hacker group posting instructions on how to download and use a "flood" tool and called for it to be used to barrage the White House and CIA sites in an effort to shut them down.

Cheek said pro-Chinese hacker activity appeared to have peaked Thursday with at least 304 US websites defaced. By contrast, he said pro-US hacker attacks have averaged 20-30 per day. *AFP*

North Korea faces new drought, famine

SEOUL—Impoverished North Korea may face another famine this year as it tries to attract outside aid days after telling the world that it will not conduct long-range missile tests at least until 2003.

"Crops in the Democratic Republic of (North) Korea are badly affected by a long spell of drought," said the communist North's official news agency, KCNA, late Friday. "There has been little rain in the DPRK since March 3."

North Korea's farm industry has been ravaged by drought, flood and other disastrous weather for seven consecutive years since 1995. In recent years, the North has announced its food problem when it was ready to open important negotiations with the West.

Earlier this week, North Korea told a visiting EU delegation that it will stick to its 1999 moratorium on missile tests at least until 2003. It was an apparent attempt to use international concern over its missile program as a bargaining chip to court international aid.

US President George W. Bush's administration, however, has been skeptical about the North and said it would not open dialogue any time soon.

South Korean journalists accompanying the EU delegation to Pyongyang this week reported that North Korea's Stalinist authorities, desperate for hard currency, were running a luxurious casino in the capital, complete with hostess bar and sauna.

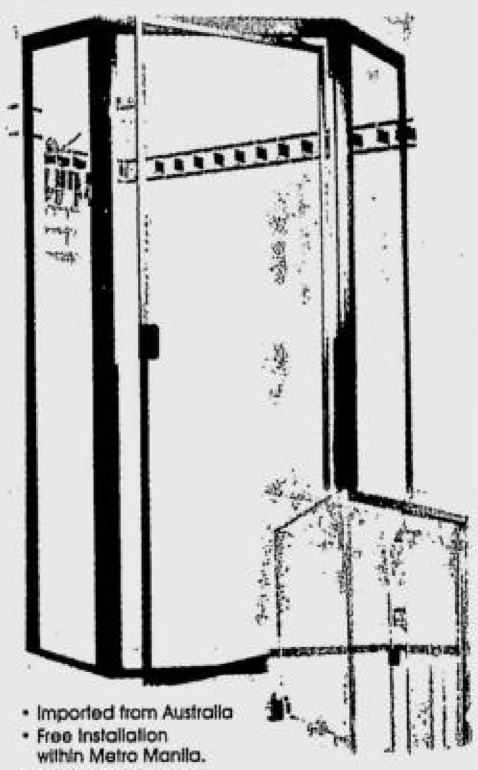
Foreign visitors caroused in a bar called "Egypt Palace," news reports said. The casino was off-limits to ordinary citizens and none of its dealers spoke in Korean.

"The casino . . was enough to make any of the visitors feel they were in a bustling street of a Western tourist city, not in a nation that suffers from chronic food and energy crisis," the English-language Korea Herald reported.

By the North's own admission, 200,000 North Koreans died of hunger between 1995 and 1998. For years, the country has depended on outside aid to feed its 22 million people.

Barring massive outside aid, this year's drought could prove fatal again, since the North's traditional planting season begins in May.

"Results of the soil survey showed that 8-15 cm deep soil of the farm land in all parts of the country remained dry, going far beyond the germination limit. Most of the sown seeds have already dried up," said KCNA. *AP*



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Pope apologizes for cruel sacking of Constantinople

ATHENS—Pope John Paul II held a Mass for 15,000 cheering Greek Catholics yesterday, and also won applause from the Greek press on the second day of his ground-breaking visit to Greece.

A day after the ailing Pontiff sought to heal a 1,000-year rift with the Orthodox church, he was greeted by a roar of cheers and Catholics waved Vatican and Polish flags as he entered the Olympic complex for the Mass.

Greece has a Catholic minority of at least 50,000, out of a population of 10 million which is 98 percent Orthodox.

Proceedings got underway at 8:35 a.m., and from the varnished floor of the basketball court the Pope began by dedicating his speech to the apostle Paul, to whom his current tour is dedicated.

"It is important to develop opportunities for dialogue on the future of mankind and humanity with our contemporaries, so that decisions taken are not just guided by political and economic concerns which disregard people's dignity," said the Pope.

In addition to Greece's own Catholic minority, the country also hosts some 250,000 immigrant Catholics. Faithful from Poland and the Philippines made up half of the congregation at Saturday's Mass.

The papal visit, the first visit to Greece by a pope since the two churches split in 1054 over papal authority, was greeted by many Catholics here as a breakthrough for their community.

"At least we will no longer be perceived as martians or as monsters," said Iorgos Vakountio, a 27-year-old Catholic from the island of Syros.

"We are used to criticism and mistrust, but before the Pope came the climate was even more tense," said Luisa Rigoutsou, 41, a doctor from Athens.

The Greek press on Saturday also gave a warm reception for Friday's sensational papal plea for Orthodox believers to forgive the errors of the Roman Catholic Church.

The Pope in particular apologized for the brutal sacking of Constantinople, the former Christian capital which is better known as Istanbul, by Crusaders from Europe in 1204.

The plea dominated the front pages of Saturday's press.

"Historic apology from the Pope," headlined the conservative Eleftheros Typos.

"Twelve centuries of ice broken," was how the liberal Kathimerini termed the apology, while the left-wing Elefterotypia said the "road is now open for unity between the two churches." *AFP*

POPE John Paul II lifts a challis during a Holy Mass in Athen's Olympic sports hall, which was attended by some 15,000 Catholic faithful May 5. The Pope's pilgrimage trip continued along the path taken by St. Paul, as he traveled to Syria later Saturday. REUTERS

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Mubarak, Arafat scramble to save Arab peace plan

SHARM EL-SHEIKH, Egypt—Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak met Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat here yesterday in a bid to save an Arab peace plan amid further violence in the Palestinian territories, with Israeli shelling and an Islamic militant gunned down.

Top Arafat aide Nabil Shaath said the talks, which lasted for around an hour, were to have focused on a joint Egyptian-Jordanian plan aimed at ending seven months of Palestinian-Israeli violence and restarting moribund peace talks.

Arafat later left the talks venue for an undisclosed destination.

"We are going to study ways to protect this plan from Israeli attempts to sabotage it and to write off the most important points," Shaath said earlier, complaining that the "United States was standing by Israel's side."

"Israel rejects a freeze in settlements, the setting of a timeline for the end of negotiations on the final status of the Palestinian territories and does not want a link between the various (security and political) aspects of this plan, which amounts to sabotaging this initiative," Shaath said.

Before meeting Arafat, Mubarak held talks with the premier of Germany's state of Bavaria, Edmund Stoiber.

"I had the feeling President Mubarak is very worried. Mubarak is not optimistic about efforts for peace," Stoiber said during a visit to Egypt.

Meanwhile, the Egyptian president was to meet with King Abdullah II of Jordan on Sunday to pursue consultations on their joint peace plan. That meeting will probably now take place in Cairo rather than here, officials said.

In the Palestinian territories, witnesses said Israeli troops killed Ahmad Khalil Issa Ismail, 36, in a hail of bullets outside his shop in the village of Artas, near Bethelehem.

Ismail had spent eight years in Israeli prisons before being released 18 months ago.

An Israeli Army spokesperson said he had "no knowledge of this matter."

But an official of Islamic Jihad, which has carried out numerous anti-Israeli attacks, accused Israel Saturday of "continuing its policy of liquidating Palestinians."

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said "this murder will not go unpunished."

The Palestinian Authority has accused Israel of "assassinating" around 20 Palestinians suspected of violent acts since the uprising against Israeli occupation began late last September. *AFP*

Afghans clinging to a 'precipice,' says US official

WASHINGTON—Severe drought prompted the United States this month to make its first official visit to Afghanistan in three years, where they found people clinging to a "precipice," famine looming, a US official said on Friday.

"The situation is that people are on a precipice in that everyone is more or less at the same level of shared destitution," said Peter Morris of the US Agency for International Development's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, who visited the country April 11 to April 18.

"When the resources finally hit rock bottom, which is very close, then you'll see a precipitous drop in health and nutrition status," he told a news briefing.

Latest UN figures show that drought or war in Afghanistan have forced more than 700,000 people to flee their homes.

Refugees are pouring into camps but supplies are insufficient. UN officials privately acknowledge disaster is looming.

Afghanistan's ruling Taliban on Thursday rejected a UN appeal for a ceasefire to allow the United Nations to deal with the deepening humanitarian crisis despite an appeal in person by UN High Commissioner for Refugees Ruud Lubbers..

He was concluding a four-day tour of the country that has been battered by war for 21 years and is now suffering its worst drought in three decades.

Morris described finding a grandmother feeding her grandchildren bread with grass; a 4-kg bundle of wheat in the corner of her mud hut a present from a neighbor—a sign she expected worse to come.

UN peace envoy to Afghanistan Francesc Vendrell said three days ago he was pessimistic about the chances for negotiations to end the conflict, blaming both outside interference and the warring factions.

He said the Taliban had boycotted every UN peace effort since new Security Council sanctions were imposed in January for their alleged support for international "terrorism."

The UN Security Council wants the Taliban to hand over Saudi-born dissident Osama bin Laden, who is accused of bombing US embassies in Africa.

George Havens, a second nutritionist from USAID's foreign disaster assistance office, told the same briefing the three-person team accompanied by UN World Food Program staff had found "woefully inadequate" shelter facilities at a camp in Herat province, where they made their first stop. *Reuters*

Wahid to be questioned over financial scandals

JAKARTA—State prosecutors are to question President Abdurrahman Wahid over corruption allegations that have triggered calls for his impeachment, Attorney General Marzuki Darusman said yesterday.

"The president will be questioned soon," Darusman told reporters in brief comments before the start of a Cabinet meeting at the state palace.

It was unclear, though, whether the planned interrogation of Wahid would be the start of a full criminal investigation into the head of state, who came to power 18 months ago.

He has steadfastly denied any wrongdoing in the scandal known as "Bulogate" or another multimillion-dollar affair, known as "Bruneigate."

Darusman said Wahid would be interviewed "as a citizen of Indonesia" rather than a suspect.

The questioning could put further pressure on Wahid, who is fending off demands that he resign. However, it could also permit him to clear his name.

He has claimed that there is no proof that he acted illegally and that accusations against him have been manufactured simply as a means to oust him for political reasons.

On Monday, the hostile Parliament voted overwhelmingly to censure him. It was its second formal rebuke of him this year and, under complex constitutional procedures, opens the way for his impeachment, possibly within months.

Wahid has been questioned by prosecutors in the past as a witness in an investigation into other suspects who have been prosecuted.

In the Bulogate affair, Wahid's former masseur and business associate allegedly used to president's name to trick a senior bureaucrat into handing over $4 million in state funds. The money came from the pension fund of the government's main food distribution agency, Bulog.

In a related affair, Wahid admitted receiving $2 million from the sultan of neighboring oil-rich Brunei for what the president said was a personal humanitarian aid donation.

Lawmakers have investigated Wahid's conduct in both affairs and uncovered circumstantial evidence that they claimed was enough to show that he had violated the Constitution.

They first censured him on Feb. 1 and called on state prosecutors to conduct a parallel criminal investigation in the scandals.

Wahid briefly attended Saturday's Cabinet meeting, but did not comment on the news that he would be questioned.

In a related development, Wahid ended months of speculation and controversy by appointing one of the two candidates proposed by parliament to head the Supreme Court.

"I have signed the letter appointing Bagir Manan as chief justice of the Supreme Court," Wahid said.

Manan is a well-known law professor who teaches at Bandung's Padjajaran University.

The post had been vacant since January. Wahid had originally refused to pick either of the parliament's choices, arguing they had been tainted by serving under the regime of ex-dictator Suharto. *AP*

US engineers say spy plane can be repaired, flown out

BEIJING—A US team of engineers that inspected a damaged US spy plane in southern China left yesterday after reporting that the stranded EP-3 could be repaired and flown out of Hainan island.

The five-member team from contractor Lockheed Martin left Hainan's provincial capital Haikou at the end of their four-day stay, which was marred by allegations of obstruction by the Chinese authorities.

"The US assessment team have completed their work and left China this morning," a US Embassy spokesperson said in Beijing.

The team was heading to Hawaii to brief Admiral Dennis Blair, the commander of US forces in the Pacific, a Defense Department spokesperson in Washington said.

Following the troubled inspection, Admiral Blair will draw up a proposal for the Chinese to return the multimillion-dollar plane. China has so far refused to relinquish it.

China's official news agency Xinhua said after the team's departure: "The two sides will continue their discussions for the final settlement of the US reconnaissance plane."

US officials said the technicians had assessed that the crippled plane could be repaired and flown off the Chinese military air base at Lingshui on the balmy tropical island.

"There was a brief call back in which they said it could be repaired and was flyable," a Pentagon official said.

Details of the team's findings were sparse because they were communicating on unsecured telephone lines, the official said.

The aircraft, bristling with sensitive espionage equipment, was seized on April 1 after it collided with a Chinese fighter jet and made an emergency landing at Lingshui.

China detained the surveillance plane's 24-member crew for 11 days, sparking a furious row with the new US administration of George W. Bush.

The US team inspected the outside of the aircraft Thursday, but Chinese authorities had refused to provide electricity needed to turn on its systems. *AFP*

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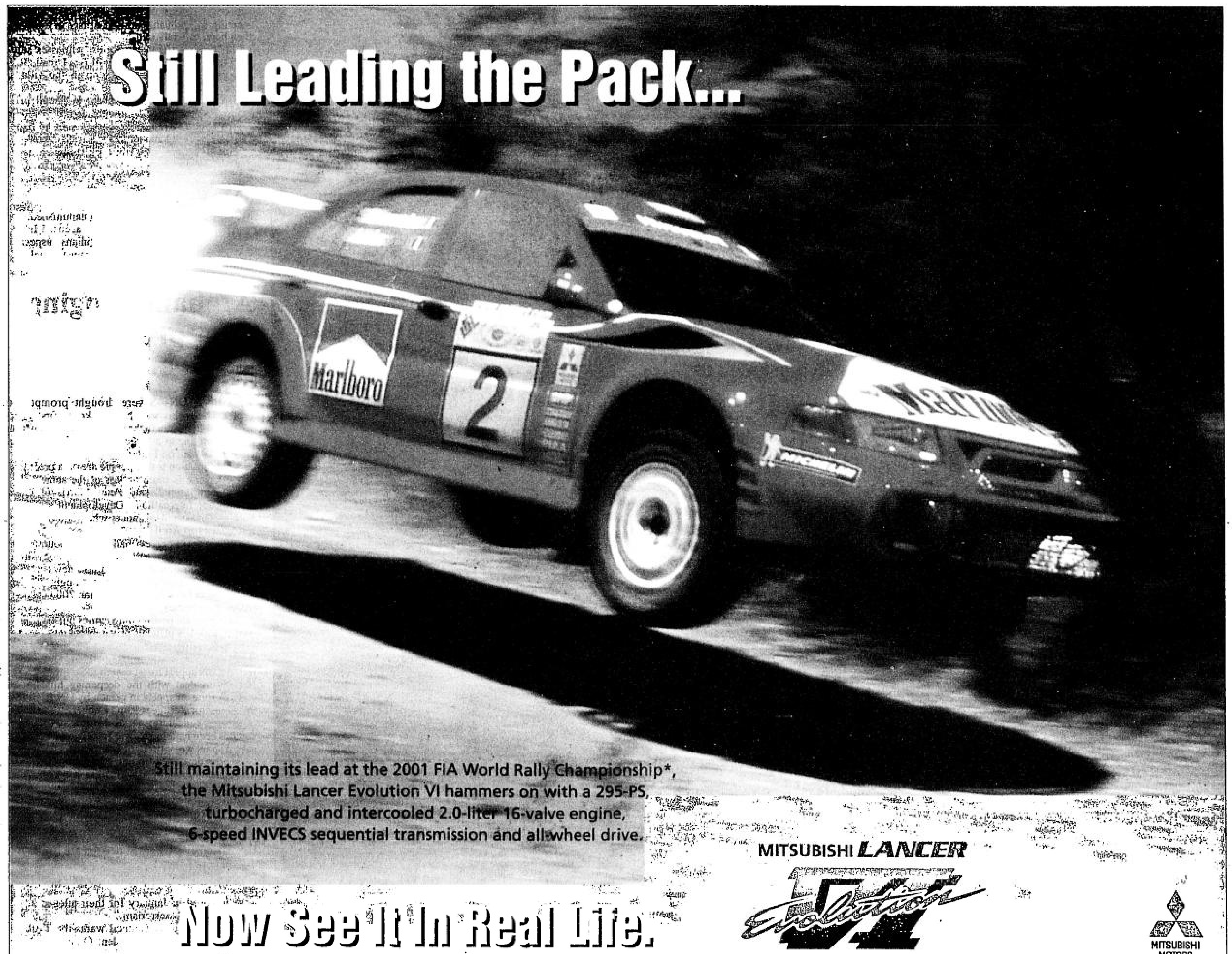

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Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

7 communist rebels captured in clash with gov't troops

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—Seven suspected New People's Army rebels were captured while two others were wounded in an hour-long encounter with soldiers and policemen on Wednesday in Porac town, some 30 kilometers east of here.

Reports reaching the regional police headquarters here identified the fatality as Sgt. Darius de la Cruz of the Philippine Air Force's 5th Fighter Wing based in Basa Air Base in Floridablanca town.

Capt. Ronald Caguioa, company commander of the Philippine Army's 69th Infantry Battalion, suffered shrapnel wounds, said Senior Supt. Ismael Rafanan, Pampanga police director.

Both Caguiao and De la Cruz were taken to the Basa Air Base hospital, less than 10 km from the encounter site in Barangay Pio in Porac.

No civilians were reported hurt when about 30 NPA rebels engaged 25 government troops in the gunfight that began near the town center at 4:30 p.m.

Rafanan identified the captured rebels as Grazela Miranda, Clifford and Erlinda Chinguanco, Marcelo Lumayog, Roberto Magtoto, Noly Alcaraz and Ernesto Bulosan.

The two wounded rebels, whose identities were not yet disclosed, were taken to the Jose B. Lingad Regional Memorial Hospital in the City of San Fernando.

Rafanan said the police are filing murder and multiple frustrated homicide charges against the captured rebels who, on Thursday afternoon, were in the custody of the Porac police.

Rafanan said the rebels were in Porac to recruit members.

Soldiers recovered a 9-mm pistol, several bullets and anti-government documents from the suspected rebels, police said.

Government troops are still pursuing the other rebels in the upland boundaries of Pampanga and Zambales, Rafanan said.

Wednesday's encounter was the second to have occurred in the province since April.

Police, backed up also by Caguioa's team, killed at least three NPA rebels and captured another in a clash on April 27 in San Luis town to frustrate an alleged plan to kill San Luis Mayor Jayson Sagum. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

DENR stops mining on Samar island

BY VICENTE LABRO
AND CYNTHIA BORGUETA
PDI Visayas Bureau

TACLOBAN CITY—Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez has ordered the suspension of all mining operations in mineral-rich Manicani Island in Guiuan, Eastern Samar, after a truck ran over an anti-mining group's picket line resulting in the death of one and the wounding of some protesters.

Alvarez directed regional director Eligio Ariate of the Mines and Geosciences Management Bureau (MGMB) in Eastern Visayas to suspend the mining operations of the Hinatuan Mining Corp. (HMC), including the Ore Transport Permit (OTP) previously issued to the company, "pending the conduct of an appropriate investigation by this office and other competent local authorities."

Alvarez also ordered Ariate to submit a written explanation of his issuance of an OTP to the HMC "within 72 hours upon receipt" of the memorandum.

"Considering (that) the operations have been suspended for several years, the intense opposition of the residents to the company's resumption of operations and the very significant volume and value of the ores to be transported, the regional director should have undertaken serious precautionary procedures and consulted with your head office prior to such issuances," Alvarez said in the memorandum dated May 1 and received here Thursday.

Alvarez said it was Eastern Samar Gov. Ruperto Ambil Jr. who confirmed to him the report of the picket line-ramming incident around 5:30 a.m. on April 30.

Killed during the incident was Alfie Arsenio, 21, a fisherman from Manicani Island. Seriously injured was Zosimo Badilla who is still confined at the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center in this city.

Ambil led a team to Manicani Island to look into the matter on Thursday, according to Virgie Bordios, Eastern Samar provincial information officer. The HMC has stopped its operation when they arrived on the island, she said.

James Leones, chief of the geosciences division of the MGMB here, yesterday said the HMC was not actually conducting mining operations but was only transporting nickel ore it stockpiled before it left the island in 1993.

He added that the mining firm still has some 47,000 tons of nickel ore left on the island. The HMC stopped its operation in 1993 when the price of nickel dropped tremendously in the world market.

Businessman Manuel Zamora, brother of former Executive Secretary Ronaldo Zamora, reportedly owns the HMC.

The HMC has an open pit mine in Barangay Buenaventura on Manicani Island, but residents are vehemently opposed to the plan of the HMC to resume its mining operation on the island.

Members of the Save Manicani Movement hailed the order of Alvarez but said they would not let their guards down.

"We still have to be vigilant," said SMM leader Teodora Elacion, barangay chair of Hamorawon, one of the four barangays in Manicani.

She said they would still need to guard the mining site to prevent HMC workers from conducting any operation in the site despite threats to their safety such as what happened on April 30.

Militants defy ban on rallies

ANGELES CITY—Some 300 members of the Kilusan para sa Pambansang Demokasya chapter in Central Luzon left here Friday to join 11 other organizations for a rally on Mendiola to challenge the ban on protest rallies and the state of rebellion that President Macapagal-Arroyo declared on May 1.

"No rally ban, no declaration of rebellion, not even martial law will be enough to stop us from exercising our rights (to protest)," said Sonia Soto, KPD chair, in a statement.

By past noon Friday, Soto said her group, Sanlakas, Sosyalistang Kilusan ng mga Manggagawa, Partido ng Manggagawa, Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino and the Resource Center for People's Development have gathered more than 1,000 protesters.

In the rally, they demanded the immediate lifting of the rally ban and of the state of rebellion.

While the police guarded all routes leading to Malacañang, they did not disperse the ralliers, Soto said.

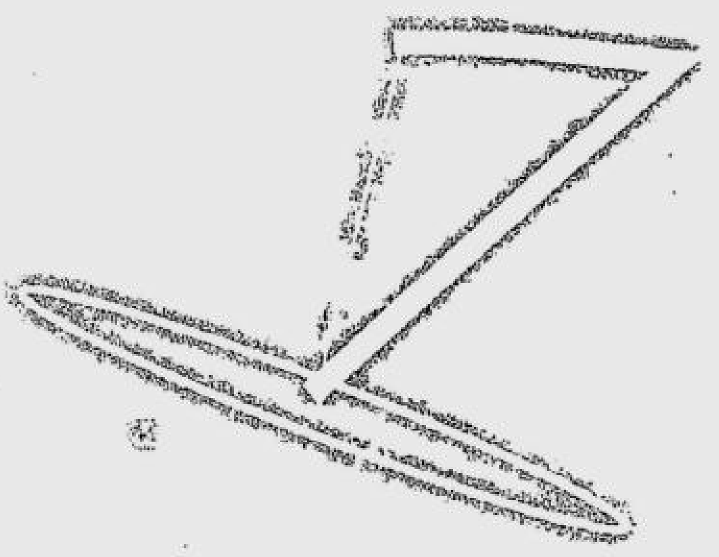
She said the prohibition to stage rallies "effectively deprives the people of their democratic rights as it aims to silence all opposition and criticism against the Macapagal-Arroyo administration. (This administration) is unmindful of the legitimate demands of the people."

She added: "Far from just attacking the Estrada faction, the state of rebellion and the ban on mass actions are direct attacks against the people's democratic rights."

"We believe that (the President) is no longer just out to get at the Estrada faction. The effects of the continued economic and political crisis have become impossible for the administration to downplay and manipulate such that they are now trying to suppress the voice of the disgruntled and hungry masses," Soto said.

Soto said genuine progressive organizations would "not take things lightly and would risk life and limb in order to protect the exercise of the people's democratic rights."

Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk



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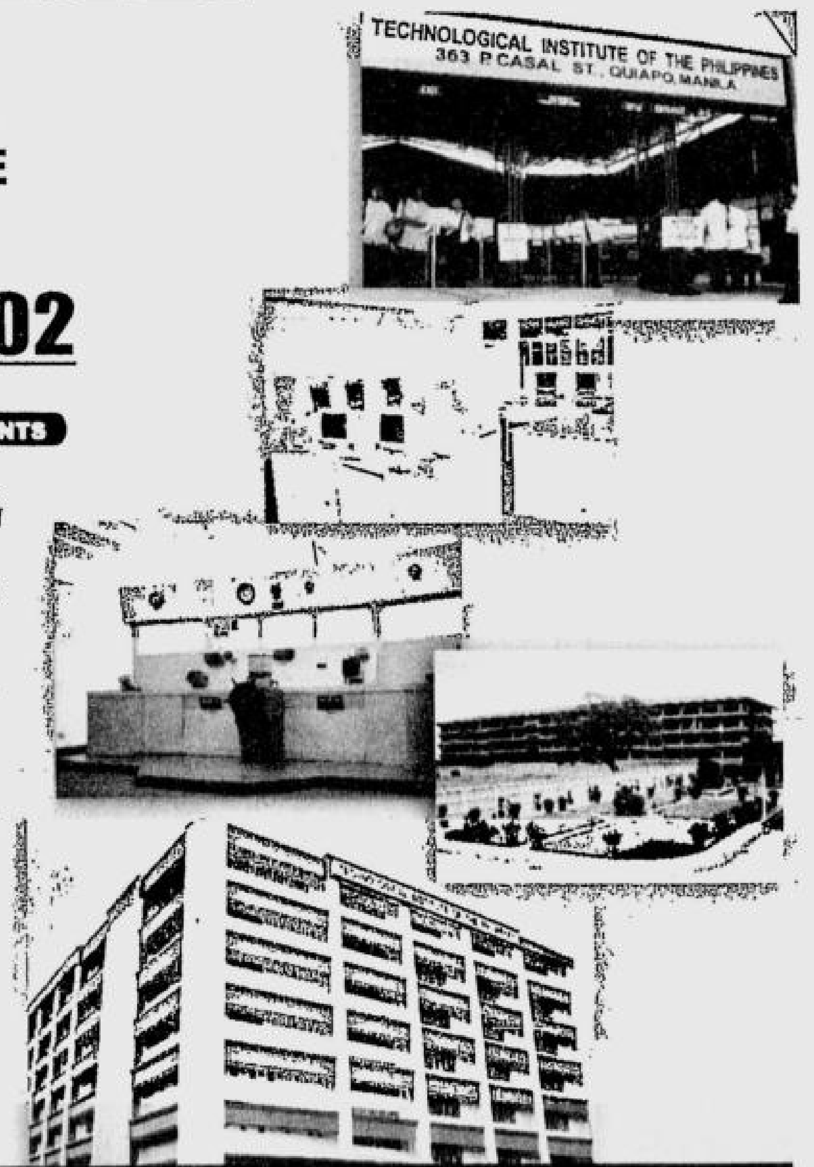
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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Bicol Region, Visayas and Mindanao will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila HI 35° Lo 25°	Baguio HI 27° Lo 16°	Tuguegarao HI 35° Lo 23°	Laoag HI 34° Lo 27°
Clark Zone HI 35° Lo 24°	Tagaytay HI 34° Lo 24°	Legazpi HI 34° Lo 27°	Calapan HI 34° Lo 27°
Bacolod HI 34° Lo 26°	Roxas HI 32° Lo 26°	Cebu HI 33° Lo 25°	Tacloban HI 33° Lo 26°
Gen. Santos HI 32° Lo 24°	Zamboanga HI 32° Lo 25°	Cagayan de Oro HI 32° Lo 23°	Davao HI 31° Lo 25°

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Bar topnotcher dreamt of flunking

By Carmela Reyes
PDI Central Luzon Desk

OBANDO, Bulacan—A week before the results of the 2000 bar examinations were released, Eliseo Zuñiga Jr., a son of a fisherman in Barangay Paco here, said he saw in his dreams that he would fail the exams and get very low grades.

But Zuñiga's dreams were proven wrong as he got a grade of 90.6 percent and topped the list of 979 successful examinees in the bar.

Zuñiga, reached by the INQUIRER through telephone in Quezon City, said the "surprising result" of the exams had made him believe that one's dreams do not necessarily translate into reality.

Zuñiga is a University of the Philippines College of Law graduate and placed seventh in the college's merit roll.

He thanked his parents for giving him and his two sisters a good education despite their hardships in life.

Zuñiga, 25 and youngest of the Zuñigas brood of three, said good education enabled him to achieve a most treasured feat for an aspiring lawyer by topping the bar, said to be the toughest among government-sanctioned examinations.

Hard work

He said his parents, being poor fishermen, worked hard to provide him and his sisters a comfortable life. He said his parents' industry paid off when they later acquired a small fishpond in their native village of Paco and when they all finished school.

"I can still recall, when I was between 5 and 7 years old, it was very seldom that my father joined us during our meals, particularly supper, because he was in the river fishing so that we can have our meals and school allowance for the next day," Zuñiga said.

"But because of patience and determination to give us a good life, my father and mother succeeded," he said.

He said he failed to surprise his parents with his achievement because they were the first ones who received the good news from a late night newscast on Wednesday.

"*Sila pa nga ang naunang tumawag sa akin. Tuwang-tuwa sila, nagtatatalon sa tuwa* (They were the first ones who called me up. They were overjoyed, in fact, they were jumping with joy)," Zuñiga said.

Celebration

He said his parents on Thursday went to Quezon City, where he is now staying, to join him in the celebrations.

Zuñiga said his topping the bar exams was also the most precious gift his daughter Ellen May received on her fifth birthday on Wednesday.

"This is the most precious and priceless gift my daughter received," he said.

Zuñiga said he could not really believe he topped the bar examinations and refused to believe the news even if this came from his friends and officemates at the Quisumbing Torres Law Offices who called him up on Thursday morning.

Zuñiga said he only accepted the news as "real" after he read the newspapers and found his name at the top of the successful examinees.

"I did not immediately believe them as I thought they could only be making fun of me. But after seeing my name as the top examinee, I almost cried in joy for all my parents' hardships," he told the INQUIRER.

Zuñiga said it was his childhood dream to become a lawyer. He said this dream was further strengthened when he began following detective series and courtroom dramas in the movies and television like L.A. Law.

Good offers

"When I was in elementary at the Colegio de San Pascual in Obando and in high school at the San Beda College, even when I was studying political science in UP, I didn't get high grades then. I was a bachelor and I did not take my studies seriously. But when I started a family, I realized how my parents labored to give me a good education. I decided to work hard and take things seriously," he said.

He said he plans to continue with his private practice for the meantime even as good offers come his way.

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Zambo mayor, bet deny role in plot vs Gloria

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Mayoralty candidate Lepeng Wee, former presidential consultant on Mindanao Economic Affairs, said he would welcome an investigation of reports that he financed the trip to Manila of pro-Estrada forces from Mindanao.

"If that (allegation) is proven, I will withdraw my candidacy," Wee said.

"It's already common knowledge that I was abandoned by Erap. I have no reason to do that, although he has been my friend for a long, long time," Wee said.

Zamboanga City Mayor Maria Clara Lobregat also denied any hand in the reported sending of pro-Estrada forces to Manila.

Lobregat said she even discouraged the people of the city against holding a rally as this would only worsen the tense situation in Manila.

"We are a peace-loving people here. We will never allow ourselves to be part of any destabilization plot against the present administration," Lobregat said.

Undersecretary Jesus Dureza, presidential assistant for regional concerns, said an undetermined number of Cotabato City residents were transported to Manila to augment those who held a rally on Edsa to protest Estrada's arrest and detention on a plunder charge.

Dureza is now working for the transportation of loyalists back to Cotabato City and nearby areas.

"The DSWD is working on it, the government will shoulder their transportation expenses . . . I pity these people, they were used by opportunists," Dureza told Cotabato City-based radio station dxMS.

Dureza refused to identify the recruiter, but he said records would show that the money for the loyalists was coursed through a private farm corporation that served as a conduit. He said the money was withdrawn from the Land Bank of the Philippines.

In Davao City, the police are investigating 15 of the leaders of the pro-Estrada rallies in the city for allegedly instigating pro-Estrada forces to rise against the government.

Supt. Wilfredo Garcia, Davao City police chief, said intelligence reports and testimony from witnesses indicated that the 15 pro-Estrada leaders also uttered alleged seditious statements during the six-day rally at the Rizal Park.

He said they are also looking into reports that some of these pro-Estrada leaders helped in securing funding for some people to board ships to Manila so they can join the pro-Estrada mass actions and the assault on Malacañang on May 1. ***Jonathan F. Ma, Edwin O. Fernandez and Jowel F. Canuday, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

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- EDUCATION (New Major: COMPUTER EDUCATION)
- ENGINEERING (Civil, Computer, Electrical, Electronics and Communications, Industrial, Mechanical, Sanitary)
- LIBERAL ARTS
- PHARMACY

GRADUATE STUDIES
- DOCTOR OF EDUCATION Major in Educational Management
- MASTER OF ARTS Major in Public Administration
- MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION - M.A. Major in Educational Management, Mathematics Education, Pilipino

- SPECIAL EDUCATION Major in Mental Retardation, Hearing Impairment Giftedness and Children with Behavioral Problems)
- GRADUATE STUDIES IN SANITARY ENGINEERING

SHORT COURSES
- Building Construction Management (3 years)
- Geodetic Science (3 years)
- Architectural Drafting (2 years)
- Commercial Science (2 years)
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tour package
A tour of hospitals has been integrated with the itinerary to provide attendees with the first hand observations of hospitals and health care facilities.
- Tour Option A One-day tour on May 12, 2001 at specialized hospitals in Quezon City.
- Tour Option B A two-day tour on May 12 to 13, 2001 in La Union, Benguet and Baguio City.

accommodation
Special rates for the 21st IPHS have been arranged at Manila Hotel. This is valid from May 9 - 13 only. For details on reservation, contact the Secretariat Office.

seminar brief
This event will be an exchange between the architects of the world on the unique situations in their own settings... a venue for mutual understanding and learning. It aims to promote a worldwide exchange of knowledge and practical experience in programming, planning, building operation and maintenance of health and hospital care facilities and endeavors to contribute to the further development and improvement of architecture for health and hospital care.

The 21st International Public Health Seminar shall bring to architects and health facilities professionals from different parts of the world the opportunity to participate and benefit from an exchange of ideas, enabling each other to acquire a global perspective useful in the design of hospital and health care facilities. This cross-cultural exchange is a key for architects to understand the cultural, social, economic and political imperatives of planning and design.

The program for the 21st IPHS shall include Lectures, Paper Presentations, Work, Research and Product Exhibits, Small Group Workshops, Rapporteur's Reports all leading to a plenary session to formulate the *Seminar Manifesto*.

The topics to be discussed shall include:
- Current situation of Health Care Facilities Provision in Developing and Developed Countries
- Technologies and Trends in Health Care Facilities Provision in Developing and Developed Countries and;
- Architectural Translations and Creative Solutions in the Design of Health Care Facilities in Developing and Developed Countries.

The roster of speakers in the lecture include **Jarbas Karman**, president of Arquitetura de Hospitais Karman Ltda in Brazil; **Ruzica Bozovic-Stamenovic, PhD**, assistant professor of the School of Design and Environment, National University of Singapore; **Yasushi Nagasawa, PhD**, professor and head at the Department of Architecture, University of Tokyo; and **Dr. Jaime Galvez Tan**, former Secretary of Health in the Philippines.

registration fee

• 21 apr - 9 may	PhP 3,500
• 10 may (on-site registration)	PhP 5,000

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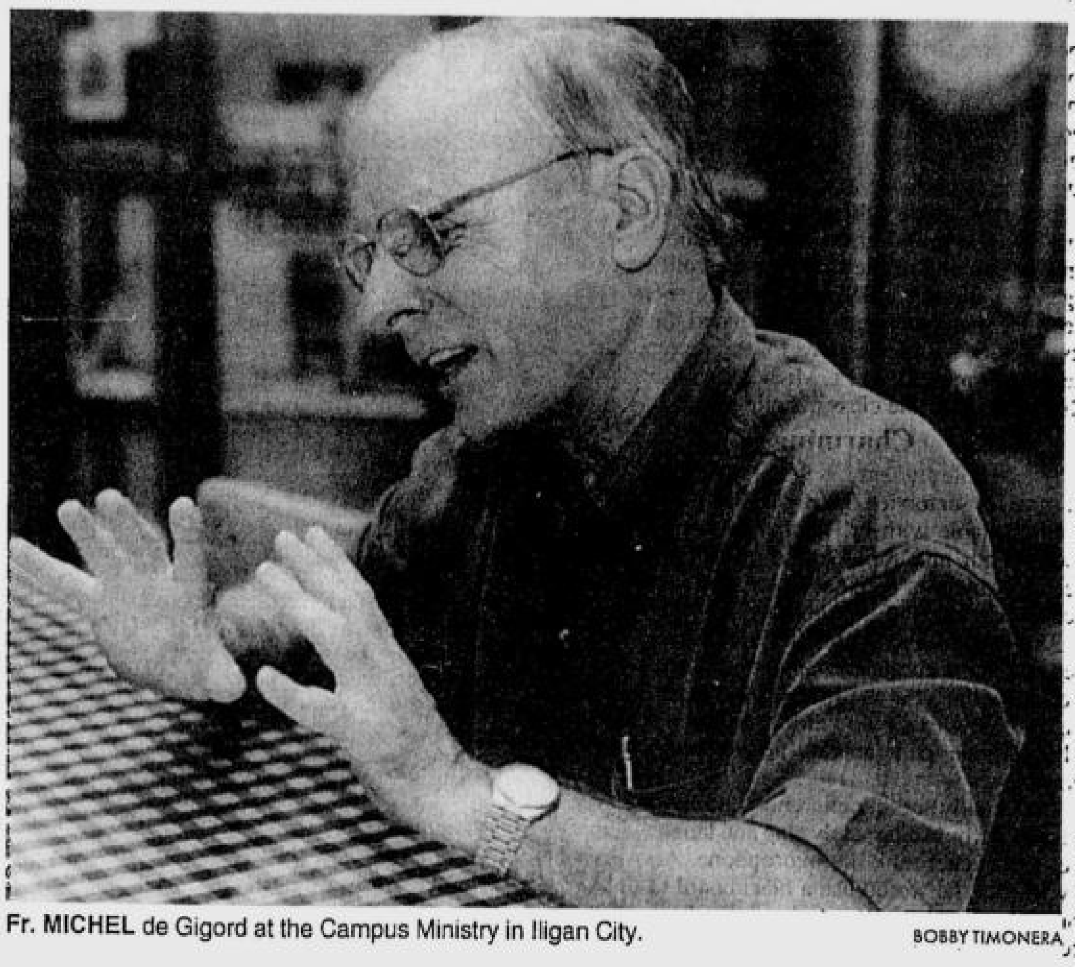


Fr. MICHEL de Gigord at the Campus Ministry in Iligan City.

BOBBY TIMONERA

Fr. Michel: a testimony to courage

BY CHRISTINE GODINEZ-ORTEGA
Iligan City

"Be a man. Don't be afraid," the French priest told a bleeding Mindanao State University (MSU) Christian student sprawled on the ground after being shot by a Maranao student jealous that the latter was with the Christian girl he fancied.

During that critical moment, no one dared help the victim, now a successful engineer, except for Fr. Michel de Gigord.

That and similar incidents made this newly arrived MSU chaplain and parish priest of Marawi City promise to be the beacon of the poor and the oppressed. At that time it was common knowledge that no one was prosecuted in Marawi City for crimes perpetuated by bad elements against innocent victims like students, buko bar vendors, laborers, PU drivers and National Power Corporation employees kidnapped and killed without mercy, or, for children kidnapped and turned into slaves.

It was this ugly side that Fr. Michel sought to fight at all costs.

Few were surprised by this priest's resolve after knowing that he came from a freedom-loving country where one is fed from birth with the stories of noble deeds of its heroes imbued with the words *liberte*, *egalite* and *fraternite* ringing in their ears.

Many Catholics like me wanted to shake the hand of this petite priest whose courage drew up a composite figure of what a priest is like based on our real-life experience and based on the novels we have read about men of the cloth, that is, self-sacrificing yet human too.

Known by thousands of students as "Padre" or "'dre" or "just call me Michel," this priest had traipsed the religious and sociocultural-political tightrope since his arrival in Marawi after he left Davao City in 1983.

Prophet of truth

Scion of a rich family in Burgundy, France, Fr. Michel had been detained at Davao City's Police Headquarters for celebrating Independence Day during the martial law years. As he was polishing his Cebuano with fellow detainee, researcher-Redemptorist brother-novelist Karl Gaspar, Fr. Michel feared being "salvaged" and his body dumped at the NPA's liquidation site, Agdao, known in those dark days as Nicaragdao, a pun on Nicaragua.

The Davao experience "colored" this priest's "understanding of Priesthood." Aside from his usual priestly vows, Fr. Michel vowed to be a "prophet of truth" which contrasted with his "teacher and servant" role in Malaysia before he was assigned to the Philippines.

In Marawi City, Fr. Michel organized its Christian community after he witnessed the "corruption among government employees, the poverty of students and the discrimination of Muslims against Christians." The feisty priest told the Christians there to "take a stand against injustice."

But he quickly added that, at the same time, he had the "best rapport" with other Maranaos in Marawi City. Taking a cue from the late Iligan and Marawi Prelature Bishop Bienvenido Tudtud, Fr. Michel extended a reconciliatory hand toward the Muslim community but "I kept my freedom against evil ways."

This "freedom" he exercised to extremes with his frankness, an appreciated trait in the West. He did not, it seemed, fully understand the Maranao's *maratabat* (pride). He spoke his mind often eventually offending the Maranao leaders.

Accused of being a rally organizer at the MSU campus in 1984, Fr. Michel was held under police custody for a day along with two MSU student leaders. Later he was placed under house arrest for a month.

Two years later, he was kidnapped. Muslims and Christians negotiated for his release. His kidnappers released him after they allegedly got what they demanded from the Cory administration.

Still Fr. Michel persevered in his mission. In 1990 he was kidnapped a second time. After his release, he told then MSU President Ahmad "Jun" Alonto he'd stay on in Marawi. Alonto agreed and assigned to him two bodyguards who, three months after his release that year, foiled another kidnapping attempt.

The tightrope was wearing thin and in 1991, a letter containing a list of ten persons marked for liquidation circulated in the MSU campus. Fr. Michel's name was in it. True enough, the first name on the list, the MSU resident theater company Sining Kambayoka's Artistic Director, Garitoy Riconalla was murdered in December of that year.

Human dynamo

Convinced of the gravity of the situation, several on the list left Marawi City but for two, one of them was Fr. Michel. Alonto promptly tripled Fr. Michel's bodyguards and warned him not to leave the MSU campus.

It was not long, however, for the tightrope to snap. While Fr. Michel was saying Mass one day, the military suddenly appeared and brought him to Alonto's office where he was told to leave Marawi City immediately. With only the clothes on his back, he was whisked into a waiting vehicle with tinted windows bound for Iligan City. From there, he was packed off for a three-month vacation in France.

But there's this thing about unfinished missions and soon Fr. Michel wanted to return to Iligan City. Armed with the blessings of his mother, he slipped back into Mindanao with the French Embassy clueless about it.

The new Iligan and Marawi Bishop, Fernando Capalla proved sympathetic and allowed Fr. Michel to put up the Catholic Campus Ministry along Iligan's Tibanga Highway where he became an indefatigable leader to about 4,000 students all over the city.

Since 1992, the Iligan community got used to seeing this human dynamo of a priest walking briskly, talking fast and crisscrossing the streets of Iligan in his Suzuki jeep. He was always racing against time but he had a listening ear to students who had problems that ranged from the financial to the bad influences of fraternities to drug problems to boy-girl relationships.

Campus ministry

The Catholic Campus Ministry located a few meters away from the MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT) attended to a daily stream of about 600-700 students most of them poor and non-Iligan residents. A library, recreation facilities and a chapel were available to them to stimulate what Fr. Michel called "the pole of activities" for the "head, heart and body."

An efficient staff composed mostly of student

FR. MICHEL/ p.15

Fr. Michel . . .

(From page 14)

leaders saw to it that the strict rules on politeness, cleanliness, sharing, honesty and openness to other cultures were followed.

As the campus ministry started to operate smoothly, Fr. Michel faced another challenge from the "disciples" of other Christian sects who proselytized about their sects right at his doorstep. He countered this by publishing the Batingaw, a monthly newsletter put out by students.

If there's another thing the Catholic Church could also be proud of, it was Fr. Michel's personable teaching of the basics of Catholicism to Iligan's Catholics. MSU-IIT faculty member, Merle Dalman Valbuena who attended the campus ministry's Bible sessions for three years said she learned more from Fr. Michel than from any other priest or Bible class in college.

Charming

These Bible students composed of professionals from all sectors of the Iligan community felt so comfortable with Fr. Michel that they could discuss with him topics on sexuality and procreation which, in their view, seemed to contradict the teachings of the church.

Aside from this, Fr. Michel's sermons delivered in a most animated manner attracted many people to the church. In fact, a couple from Cagayan de Oro City would take the one and a half-hour ride to Iligan City just to listen to his sermon.

The usually somber church would light up as the crowd would alternately clap and laugh whenever Fr. Michel took the microphone. And like any teacher, he would use a blackboard to illustrate, literally, his point in Cebuano with a French accent that everyone found charming.

But like what they say, all good things come to an end. He bid goodbye to students when he offered prayers during the MSU-IIT's Baccalaureate service in April. This month, Fr. Michel heads for home in Burgundy where he will continue his missionary work with the Foreign Mission Society of Paris confessing to us, "no more campus ministry for me."

Recipient of this year's Aurora Quezon Peace Award, this good Padre has no plans of returning to the country although he promised to carry the image of the Philippines, both the good and the bad, in his heart.

From all of us whose lives he had touched, we say, *au revoir et grand merci,* Fr. Michel.

Stop catching the robbers

By Allan A. Nawal
Digos City

THE INCREASING demand because of its alleged aphrodisiac properties has continued to threaten the coconut crabs of Davao del Sur.

Anselmo Alagenio of the law enforcement unit of the provincial fisheries office here agreed that there is a need to step up the protection of coconut crabs (scientific name: *Birgus latro*), which can only be found in Sarangani Island.

"Even during the 1980s, the population of the coconut crabs in Sarangani Island, was already dwindling," he said.

Alagenio is not sure how many coconut crabs are still in that island, but said rare sightings of the crustaceans would confirm reports that it is in the brink of extinction.

Buenaventure Salubre, barangay chair of Patoco, said they have long wanted a ban on the commercial trade of coconut crabs. These crabs are also named "robbers," as they climb coconut trees to "harvest" their favorite food—fresh coconut.

He said the increasing demand from foreigners, mostly Japanese who believe in the aphrodisiac and medicinal properties of coconut crabs, has resulted to the intensive trapping of the crustacean.

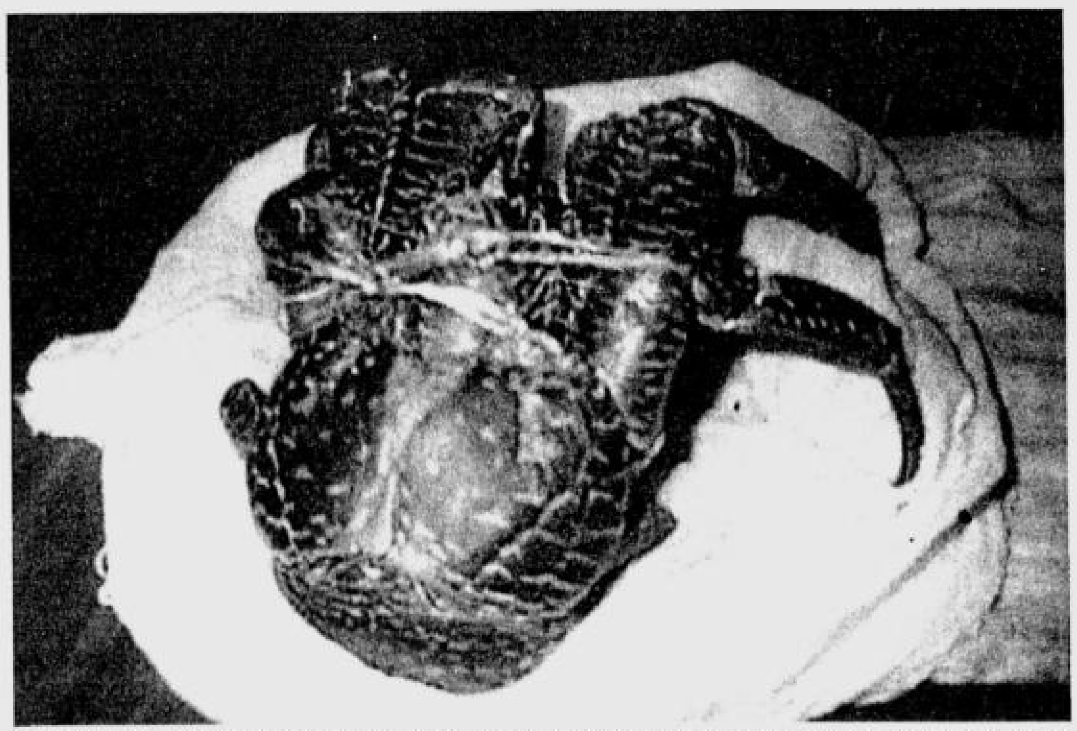
Salubre said high demand also drove the price from P50 per kilo to P100 per kilo, luring more people to hunt the crabs.

"The lucrative market for coconut crabs has helped them (residents) in their daily needs," Salubre said.

An adult coconut crab, with a diameter of 45 cm and a leg span of up to 75 cm, could weigh as much as 5 kilos.

Alagenio said the job of passing laws for the protection of coconut crabs has already been transferred to the local government unit of Sarangani Island after the devolution.

"We could help enforce any law that would be passed by the municipal government. But we could not stop its trade right now because of the lack of any law or ordinance for that matter," he said.



COCONUT crabs are threatened by high demand because of their alleged medicinal and aphrodisiac properties.
ALLAN NAWAL

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- The Anti-Trafficking Against Women and Minors Bill (H.B. 7199) – Pagpigil sa pagbebenta ng kababaihan at kabataan sa prostitusyon !
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EDSA SHRINE DESECRATION

Sin to poor: Make amends, join procession

By NORMAN BORDADORA

THIS TIME it's Cardinal Sin doing the calling.

Nearly one week after nightly throngs left the Edsa Shrine in near ruin, Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin is asking the poor, thousands of whom formed the bulk of the pro-Estrada rallies there, to join in the final act of reparation for the desecration of the historic shrine.

"Let us be united in expressing to God our gratitude, our penance and our commitment to be a Church of the poor," the cardinal said in a letter to be read at all Catholic Masses in the Manila archdiocese today.

Sin asked the auxiliary bishops and other religious leaders in the archdiocese to mobilize base groups and the urban poor for the four processions that will converge at the shrine where he will celebrate an outdoor mass for final reparation at 4:30 p.m. on May 13, election eve.

"Over and above these instructions, let me express my strong wish that our base groups, community units, the urban poor be mobilized to participate in this act of reparation for the profanation of the shrine," Sin said in his letter to the faithful.

Sin and his spokesperson, Msgr. Socrates Villegas, rector of the Edsa Shrine, have repeatedly said the Catholic Church has no quarrel with the poor people who massed at Edsa to demand the release of former President Joseph Estrada and the resignation of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

During the Thanksgiving Mass on May 1 that marked the "liberation" of the shrine, Sin had stressed the Catholic Church had nothing against the poor who went to Edsa, "but the rally organizers should be held accountable for what happened."

Hundreds of thousands of mostly poor folk came or were bused to Edsa for six days to protest the incarceration of Estrada on plunder charges.

They were whipped to frenzy every night by opposition political figures who egged them to march on Malacañang.

On the sixth day, the mob attacked the Palace in a bid to overthrow Macapagal. The politicians who had called on them to assault Malacañang abandoned them and denied any responsibility in the whole affair.

"The nightmare is behind us. On the first day of Flores de Mayo, the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker, the Shrine of Mary Queen of Peace at Edsa was restored to us," Sin said.

According to him the duty to make amends for the profanation of the Edsa Shrine still stands and the requirement of the Catholic faithful to say daily rosaries in reparation was still binding.

The processions and Mass would then bring the collective act of reparation to a close, he said.

Participants in the processions will assemble at four points—the Mary the Queen Church in Greenhills, San Juan; St. Francis Church on Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City; Christ the King Parish in Green Meadows, Quezon City; and the Our Lady Perpetual Help in Cubao, Quezon City.

Under siege, Gloria kept cool

(From page A1)

loyalists were on their fifth day of occupying grounds made historic by Edsa I and Edsa II.

Aside from the President and Corona, also present in the meeting were Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes, Interior and Local Government Secretary Joey Lina, National Security Adviser Roilo Golez and Presidential Adviser for Regional Development Paul Dominguez.

At about 1 a.m. those in the Palace received reports that the Edsa Shrine throng had started leaving and moving toward Malacañang.

"I called Mikey Arroyo (the President's eldest son) to inform him of the situation and he said that they already knew about it. In a short while, presidential sons Mikey and Dato entered the meeting room," said Cordova.

At this point, Cordova said Dato "asked me to get holsters for their semi-automatic pistols."

"Everybody was steadfast about staying with the President no matter what," recalled Cordova.

At about 4 a.m., when the siege on the Palace was at its noisiest and most dangerous, Cordova noted that some of the Cabinet members had likewise braced themselves to protect the presidency.

"This may be the last time we would be seeing each other," Corona told Cordova. Corona had packed a .45-cal. pistol.

Yet, all this time, it was Ms Macapagal, surrounded at all time by at least 20 PSG men, who was most calm and composed, according to Cordova.

Constantly on cell phone

"She was constantly on the cellular phone, issuing instructions to the police and the military," said Cordova.

He added that Ms Macapagal didn't appear worried even if all of them could hear the screaming from just outside the Palace gate and the clanking of its iron grills.

"With every spurt of gunfire and every clank from the iron grills our fears would rise, but not the President," he recalled.

Cordova said the Palace insiders were afraid that the "ultra maximum tolerance" policy imposed on the police and the military could embolden some of the ralliers to climb over the Palace fence.

"We knew that the PSG had instructions to shoot in the leg or arm anybody who would try to scale the fence. But if that person would succeeded to make it inside the Palace grounds, there were instructions to shoot that person down," Cordova said.

Had that happened, there would have been more bloodshed which worried the Cabinet members, according to Cordova.

At around 4:10 a.m., they started to hear people wildly running outside and chanting "Erap! Erap!"

"All hell was breaking loose just 50 meters from the President and her men," Cordova said.

Cordova recalled that the President calmly went about her duties and would continuously listen to reports from outside the Palace. Once in a while, she would confer with a Cabinet member.

"When the noise was getting too loud, an indication that (the Estrada people) were quite near, the President proceeded inside the Palace while the Cabinet members present stayed at the steps of the presidential residence," Cordova said.

It was at this juncture that Corona asked his driver to get his gun from his car.

"When the gun was handed to him, Secretary Corona cocked his .45 cal. Colt automatic and told me, '*Patay na kung patay, kailangang i-*defend *natin si Ma'am,*" (We can be killed but we need to defend Ma'am.), Cordova said.

Cordova, himself, was handed a 9 mm pistol by a PSG official.

"That was the longest day of my life," Cordova said.

To Quiapo to take cab

At around 5 a.m., Cordova said he was instructed by Corona to get hold of Justice Secretary Hernando Perez and Undersecretary Dondi Teehankee so they could advise the President on the legal steps she could take against the leaders of the mob.

Cordova went through a labyrinth of secret passages from the Presidential Residence that led out to the safety of the Executive Building located at the far end of J. P. Laurel Street.

"I climbed the fence near the motorpool and walked all the way to Quiapo so that I could take a cab to go to the Department of Justice," he said.

Cordova was able to get hold of Teehankee. But they had a problem of returning to the Palace considering that the DOJ undersecretary's car bore government plates.

"So I had to call up a classmate, lawyer Fidel Exconde, who fetched me and Undersecretary Teehankee at the DOJ," he said.

The three were able to sneak back to Malacañang, passing through Ayala bridge and entering the Palace through Gate 2.

"When we arrived at past 6 a.m., the President was firmly in control and was already being briefed about the legal steps that were available to her as President in dealing with the crisis," Cordova concluded.

THE WAY IT WAS: The dispersal of the rampaging Mendiola ralliers turned the tide for the Macapagal administration.

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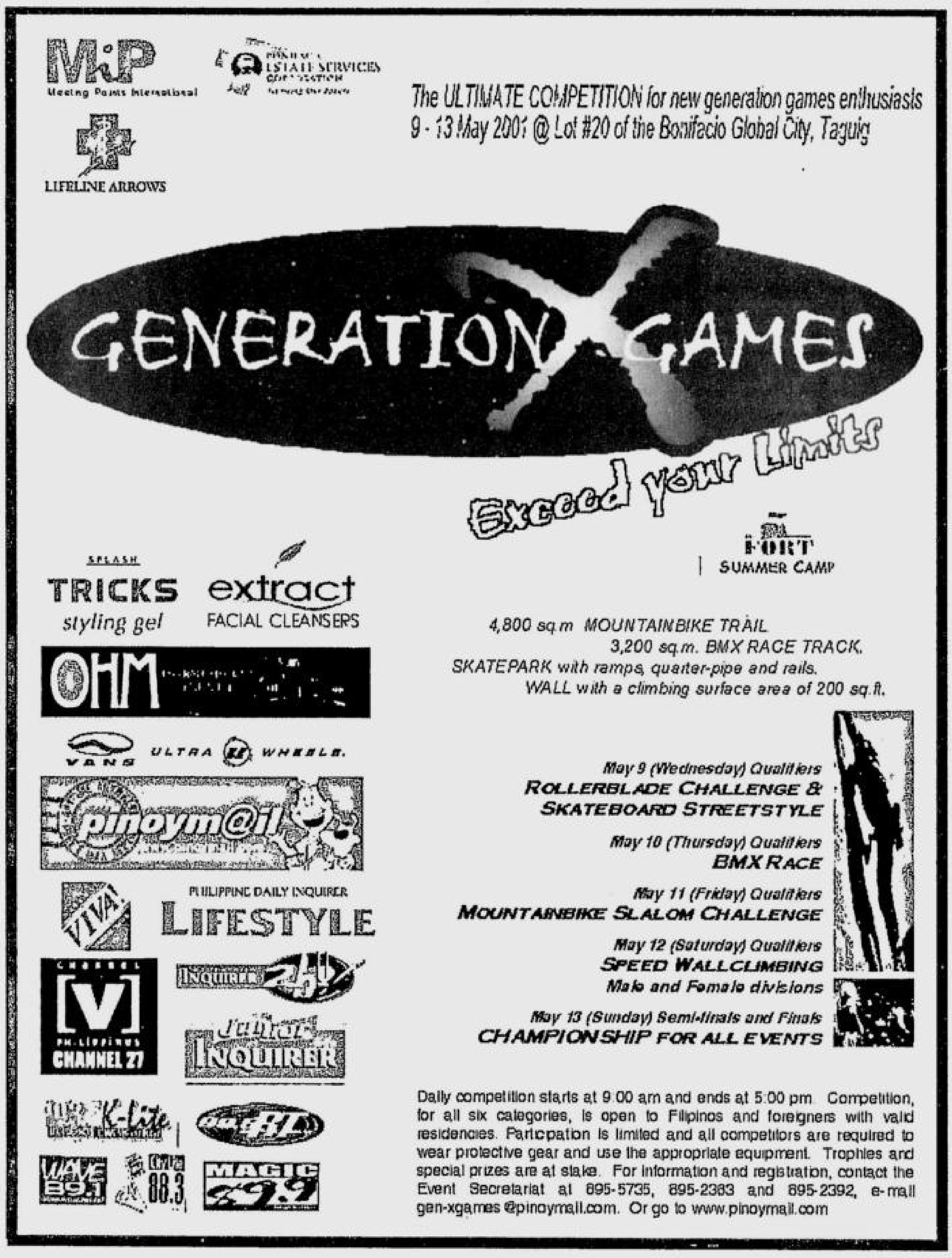

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‘Where have we failed the poor?’

(From page A1)

people who put him in power? Where were we?

"Like sheep without a shepherd" was how Father Ben Moraleda of Kaalagad Katipunang Kristiyano, an ecumenical group of militant Catholic and Protestant church workers, described the throng that went on a rampage.

"We looked at the thousands who massed up at the Edsa Shrine and dismissed them simply as a mob—unwashed, uncouth, uncultured--and saw and heard only their ravings and the threat to us 'peace-loving and educated' citizens," Moraleda told more than 20 participants of a recent Kaalagad reflection session.

"When this mob finally moved, we congratulated each other and said our judgment was deadly accurate," he added.

But Moraleda used the biblical parable of the Good Shepherd to point out that many failed to see the so-called mob "as Jesus would have wanted us to see them—as people who are harassed and helpless like sheep without a shepherd."

They are not the enemy, Moraleda stressed.

"This is a test," one participant said. "Remember, truth triumphed in Edsa II and despite what happened recently, we have not lost what we have won. We just have to work harder and reach out. The job is not done."

Wept unashamedly

Harvey (not his real name), who has been working as a community organizer in poor Christian communities for two decades, wept unashamedly and expressed his frustration during the reflection session.

"Why, why?" he cried. "Have all our efforts gone to waste? I have poured out my life for the poor, and now this. Should I give up?"

But it was different in a poor district in Malate and Paco in Manila where Good Shepherd nuns have lived for 20 years: No member of a Christian community in the area went to the pro-Estrada rally.

When asked why, a woman answered they knew Estrada had stolen and they did not want to side with evil. Seminars, reflections and prayer had brought them to this kind of conviction, she added.

"We knew on Monday that the takeover would not happen because God would not allow that," the woman said.

"We have always tried to respond to their needs," said a nun who did not wish to be identified.

It was peaceful in the area, another nun added. "We were just worried that the rioting would become widespread."

Turned against them

That was not the story elsewhere.

A Franciscan nun sobbed as she recalled how relocated squatters with whom they had lived for seven years turned against them. "We lived side by side with them, lived the way they did, but they still thought Estrada was their savior," she said. "*Kulang na lang palayasin nila kami* (they did all but drive us away) and they blame us for Estrada's downfall."

Others expressed hope mixed with disappointment.

"This is a wake-up call," a worker of the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation of the Association of Major Religious Superiors said.

But, she added, "I also could not reconcile myself with how the institutional Church reclaimed the Edsa Shrine for themselves. That was on May 1, Labor Day. They thanked every one but there was no special mention of the poor workers whose day it was and who were there. My heart broke." Then she burst into tears.

Letters of praise

Carmelite Sister Erlyn told the group that several nuns in her order went from hospital to hospital seeking the wounded after the bloody march. It did not matter whose side the wounded were on, she added.

Kaalagad members, many of them veterans of anti-Marcos rallies in the past and victims of state brutality, expressed admiration for police and military restraint before the taunting, angry protesters. They planned to write letters of praise for the men in uniform.

A reflection participant who had retired from a high-paying job from one of the country's top 10 corporations said he was all the more inspired to help the relocated squatters set up cooperatives and livelihood programs.

Reflecting on the parable of the Good Shepherd, Moraleda said the sheep reminded him of the tragic plight of 85 percent of Filipinos who are poor and the easiest prey for "human predators."

He cited the qualities of the good shepherd, among them, being with the poor, feeding them and giving up one's life for them.

"We should not give up," a sobbing church worker said, "we have to be shepherds, not only to the poor, but also to one another. We need to be more compassionate."

The work will be hard and will take a long time, a participant said. "We cannot leave and give up now. We have to examine ourselves and find new ways."

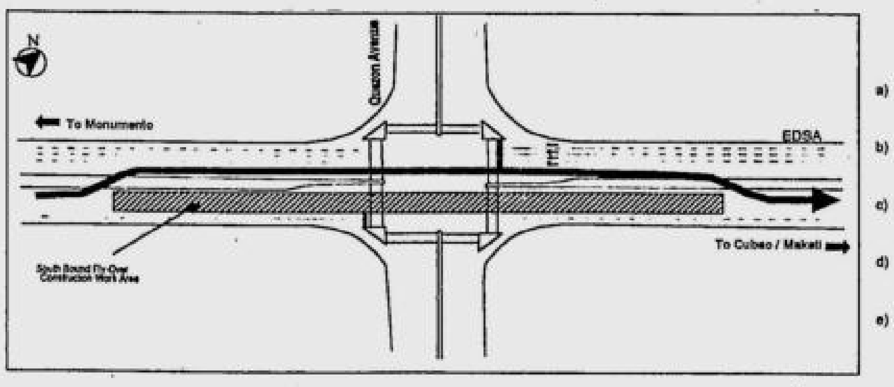
ANNOUNCEMENT

The **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS** in coordination with the **METRO MANILA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**, the City Government of Quezon and the PNP – Traffic Enforcement Group announces the Construction of Stage 4 of the EDSA – Quezon Interchange Project,

CONSTRUCTION OF THE EDSA SOUTHBOUND FLY-OVER

Traffic Management Plan

(Effective May 5 to October 6, 2001)



To minimize impact of the proposed construction works to traffic in the area, the following traffic measures as part of the overall traffic management strategy are to be implemented.

a) Two (2) way traffic along EDSA and Quezon Avenue shall be maintained throughout the duration of Stage 4;

b) Public Utility Buses and Jeepneys (PUBs and PUJs) shall continue to use EDSA and Quezon Avenue,

c) Counterflow / Reversible lanes along EDSA approximately between Benitez and Mother Ignacia streets will be allocated for south bound traffic;

d) Left turners at EDSA – Quezon Avenue intersection are encouraged to follow hook turn or left turn alternate routes (see details below);

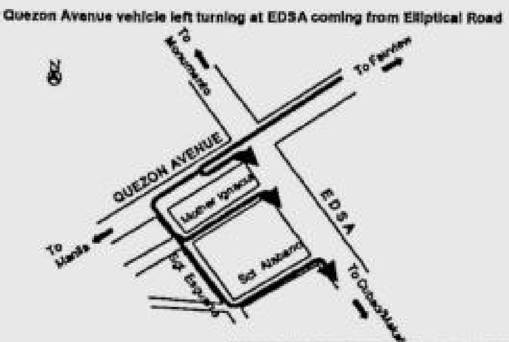
e) Private vehicles along EDSA and Quezon Avenue are encouraged to take designated alternate routes (see details below).

COUNTER FLOW / REVERSIBLE SCHEME

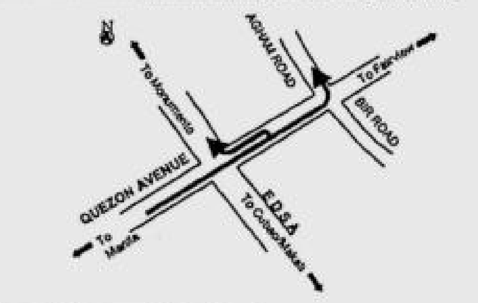
Morning Peak Hour : 5 Lanes Southbound
3 Lanes Northbound

Afternoon Peak Hour: 5 Lanes Northbound
3 Lanes Southbound

For Quezon Avenue vehicle left turning at EDSA coming from Elliptical Road

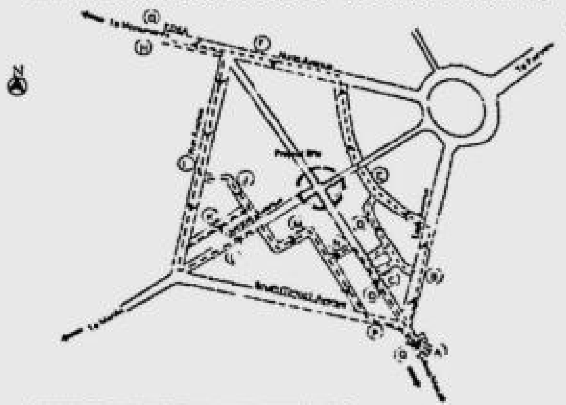


For Quezon Avenue vehicle left turning at EDSA coming from Manila

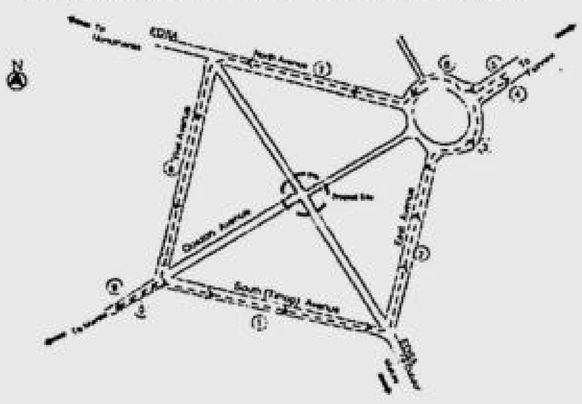


ALTERNATE ROUTES

NORTH BOUND / SOUTH BOUND ALTERNATE ROUTES



EAST BOUND / WEST BOUND ALTERNATE ROUTES



From Cubao/Makati (North Bound):
A – From EDSA
C – Take NIA Road
E – Left turn at BIR Road and straight to Agham
F – Left Turn at North Avenue
G – Straight to EDSA
Alternatively:
A – From EDSA
B – Left turn at East Avenue
E – Left turn at BIR Road & straight to Agham
F – Left turn at North Avenue
G – Straight to EDSA

From Monumento (South Bound):
H – From EDSA
I – Right turn at West Avenue
K – Left turn at Times street OR
L – Left turn at Quezon Avenue
J – Right turn at Examiner & to Sct. Albano
M – Left turn at Mother Ignacia
N – Right turn at Sgt. Esguerra & left turn at Sct. Albano and to EDSA OR
Left turn at Timog & Right turn at EDSA

From Manila (East Bound):
0 – From Quezon Avenue
1 – Right turn at Timog Avenue
2 – Straight to East Avenue
3 – Right turn at Elliptical Road
4 – Right turn at Don Mariano Marcos Avenue

From Fairview (West Bound):
5 – From DMMA
6 – Right turn at Elliptical Road
7 – Right turn at North Avenue
8 – Straight to West Avenue
9 – Right turn at Quezon Avenue

DRIVE CAREFULLY - OBSERVE TRAFFIC RULES

UP Collegian: First in, first out

(From page A1)

Philippines' official student publication, but she'll be the odd person out if she shows up at a homecoming-reunion of its ex-editors and writers this month.

All former staffers of the Philippine Collegian "except Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago" are invited to attend the reunion set on May 18, 7 p.m., at the Bahay ng Alumni in the UP Diliman campus, according to a press release sent to the INQUIRER yesterday.

Outgoing Collegian editor in chief Herbert Docena, one of the reunion organizers, cited three reasons for excluding the controversial senator.

He said these were:

- Her "arrogant action" during Joseph Estrada's impeachment trial, wherein she ordered the Senate sergeant at arms to evict three spectators from the gallery for looking at her "provocatively."
- Her voting along with 10 other senator-judges against the opening at the trial of the second envelope containing evidence on Estrada's alleged "Jose Velarde" bank account.
- Her having allegedly "incited" Estrada supporters massed at Edsa to lay siege on Malacañang.

"We are ashamed to have her as an alumnus. She is an aberration in the history of the Collegian, which has produced principled leaders who make important contributions to society," Docena told the INQUIRER.

Santiago served as editor in chief of the prestigious student publication in 1968-69. She was then a law student, and even then a high-profile campus figure.

The reelectionist senator has lately hogged the news because of her threat to resist if she is arrested in the course of the government crackdown on alleged plotters against the Macapagal administration.

She accompanied the threat with a public display of a 9mm pistol.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez has since announced that Santiago would not be arrested, and that she was aware of this.

‘Joke’

In Davao City, People Power Coalition (PPC) senatorial candidate Ernesto Herrera suggested to reporters that Santiago be taken "like a joke."

"Can you really stomach her?" he said, lamenting Santiago's actions and statements in relation to her then impending arrest and on the campaign trail.

"*Sayang* (It's a shame) because she is intelligent. But sometimes she can also erupt into something that blurs your impression that she is intelligent," Herrera told reporters after a press forum at the Philippine Information Agency yesterday.

Lawyer Isagani Carlos Zarate, spokesperson of the Free Legal Assistance Group in Southern Mindanao, said that should Santiago make good her threat to shoot her arresting officers, it would make her not only an alleged "instigator of violence" but also "a murderer."

"The Macapagal administration should not allow itself to be blackmailed by such threats coming from Senator Santiago," Zarate said.

He said that while it was within Santiago's rights to question the legality of her arrest, she should also submit to the presumption that her arresting officers would only be enforcing the law, unless the courts declared that her arrest was illegal.

Bishop Felixberto Calang of the Philippine Independent Church aired the warning that killing was not only a crime but also a "mortal sin."

But he expressed the belief that Santiago's threat was mere "hot air."

He noted her earlier assertion that she had "lied" when she promised to jump off a plane with no parachute if Estrada were arrested for alleged plunder.

Honorees

Santiago's co-alumni in the Collegian who played key roles in People Power II will be honored at the reunion.

They include former Finance Secretary Edgardo Espiritu, PPC senatorial candidates Joker Arroyo and Franklin Drilon, Interior Secretary Joey Lina and impeachment prosecutor Rep. Roan Libarios.

Also among the honorees is Sheila Coronel, director of the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism.

Alumni of the paper have occupied important positions in all three branches of the government, business and the media.

The Collegian is published weekly and is funded by fees collected from UP students.

In the martial law years, it was one of the few voices speaking out against the Marcos dictatorship. ***With a report from Jowel F. Canuday, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

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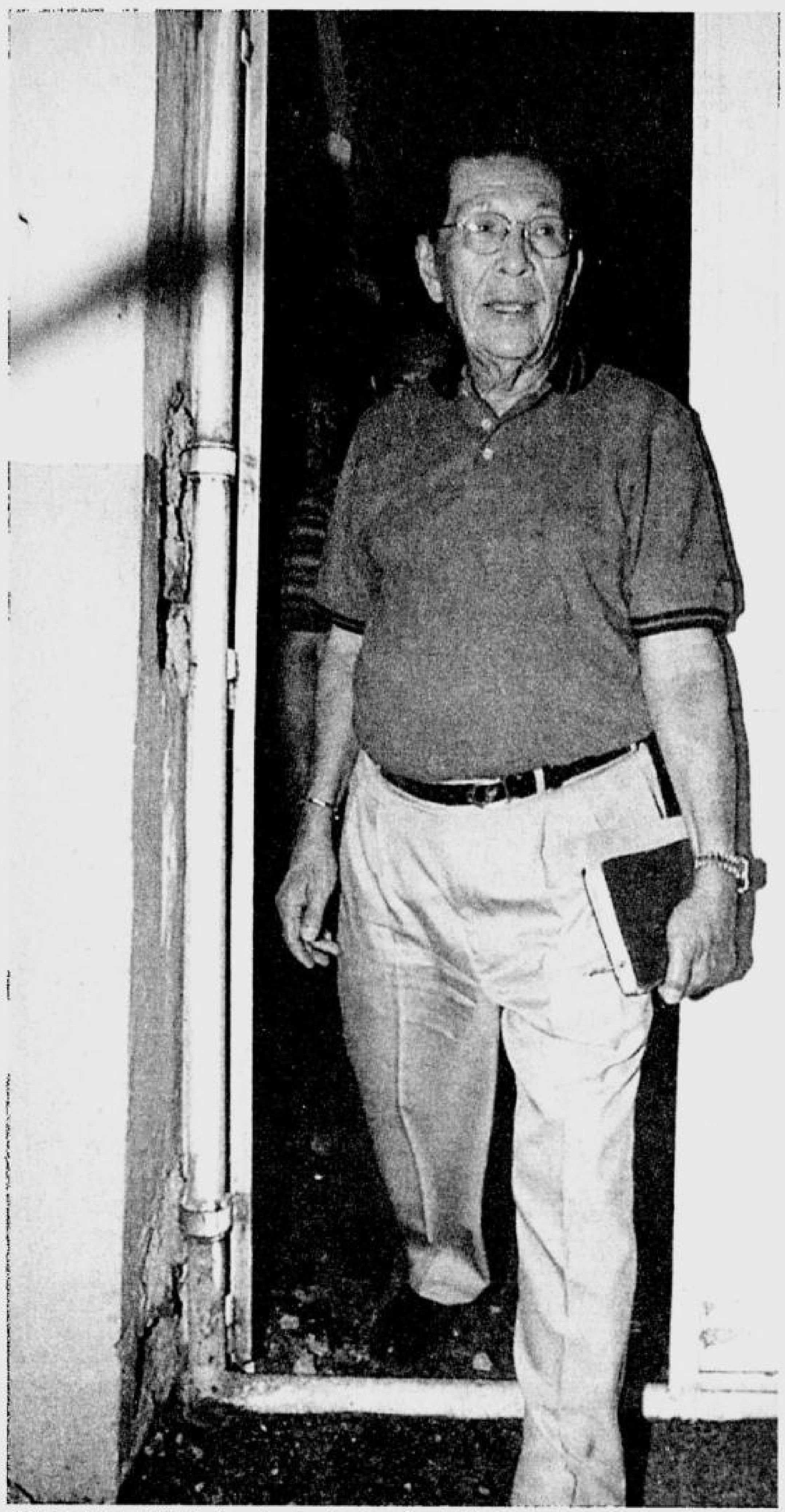


FREE on interim bail after four days in detention, Sen.Enrile leaves Camp Crame at 8:45 p.m.on Saturday.
DENNIS SABANGAN

Enrile ordered released

(From page A1)

From his detention center in Fort Sto. Domingo in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, Estrada issued a statement denying that he or any of the senatorial candidates of the Puwersa ng Masa, including Enrile, had ordered the assault on the Palace

"I deny this latest allegation and state with utmost certainty that this is yet another form of cheap political gimmickry on the part of the administration. It is pure fantasy and a product of their wild imagination," the disgraced leader said.

Estrada also said the senator "did indeed address the masses at Edsa III, but he did not do so on my behest."

"I am in no position to dictate to my brilliant friend, and can only assert that his speeches were intended to open the minds of those in power to the problems which the greater number of our countrymen face, as they never gave a listening ear during all those days when millions of our people were venting their grievances at Edsa," Estrada added.

Legality

The Supreme Court said in a one-page resolution signed by Clerk of Court Luzviminda D. Puno that since Enrile had been charged with rebellion before the Quezon City Regional Trial Court, "the question of the legality of his continued detention need no longer be resolved herein."

It also said the evidence presented before it by the government—a sworn statement of S/Sgt. Pablo Bala Jr. and a joint affidavit of agent Martini Cruz and Geovel Aperio—was hearsay.

But the tribunal said its decision did not preclude the trial court from making its own determination on Enrile's detention for the purpose of fixing bail or determining his guilt of petitioner "as the facts of evidence may warrant."

It added that its ruling would not preclude the trial court from resolving all other issues pertinent to the petition.

Ismael Khan, chief of the Supreme Court's Public Information Office, told reporters that the tribunal allowed "interim bail" because the issue of Enrile's detention would still be resolved by the lower court.

As for the case involving ex-Ambassador Ernesto Maceda, the tribunal said in a separate resolution that his petition for the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* was now moot because a lower court had allowed him to post bail of P80,000.

The tribunal stressed that even before Maceda could post bail, he was released by authorities to the custody of his lawyer, Alfredo Lazaro, for health reasons.

"This petition has thus been mooted. Accordingly, the instant petition is hereby dismissed for being moot and academic and the case deemed closed and terminated," the tribunal said.

Lazaro, who was present when copies of the resolution were released to the media, said the high court was right when it refused to rule on his client's petition.

"Technically, the former ambassador has been released. There's no need for the Supreme Court to rule on the legality of his arrest," Lazaro told reporters.

Enrile and Maceda filed separate petitions after their arrest and detention by the Philippine National Police. They were arrested without warrants based on the President's declaration of a state of rebellion in Metro Manila on Tuesday.

According to Sen. Renato Cayetano, the grant of interim bail to Enrile "recognized the validity of warrantless arrests and the declaration of the state of rebellion."

"This conclusion is supported by the fact that the high court did not annul the information filed by the Department of Justice against Enrile," Cayetano said, adding that the tribunal "found the nature of the evidence submitted by the DOJ to the court insufficient."

Persecution

Reelectionist Sen. Gregorio Honasan, another alleged coup plotter who is being hunted by authorities, yesterday asked the President to stop the supposed political persecution of the opposition.

"The Macapagal administration should attend to the country's problems of continuing poverty and unemployment and lack of education instead of persecuting its perceived political enemies," Honasan said in a statement.

He reiterated that he was not involved in any coup plot, saying: "I categorically deny any involvement in the so-called plot to install a civilian-military junta through the violent overthrow of this government or any administration."

He stressed that "such unfounded accusations would only further divide the people and hurt the country's economy."

Honasan pointed out that while the government had started peace talks with communist and secessionist rebels, "there is no reason why it cannot enter into a sort of peace pact with the opposition."

He also said he could not be considered a "fugitive" because he had "not violated the Constitution and never instigated the Erap supporters to take up arms against the Macapagal administration."

But in Tuguegarao City, reelectionist Senators Franklin Drilon and Juan Flavier appealed to Honasan to turn himself in.

"(We) are appealing to Greg to place himself within the fold of the law and face the charges," Drilon said in a news conference shortly after he and fellow People Power Coalition candidates arrived for the resumption of its 13-day "victory run."

Drilon said he was sure that Honasan would be "accorded due process."

Flavier aired his appeal for Honasan and the other suspects "to come out" and "bring to the fore their own views and their own stand to clear their names, especially since they are candidates and elections are only one week away."

On Thursday, PPC candidate and reelectionist Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr., made a similar appeal to Honasan, who, along with Panfilo Lacson, his co-candidate in the PnM, had gone into hiding.

PPC bet Francis Pangilinan, on the other hand, had a stern statement for those on the run.

"Refusal to face the music and have the opportunity to explain one's side is not good for these individuals who continue to defy our criminal justice system," Pangilinan said.

No mercy

Militant groups yesterday continued to press the government to "show no mercy" for the supposed ringleaders of the "May Day" failed power grab.

The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) and party-list group Bayan Muna also called on the Macapagal administration to revive the human rights abuse and criminal cases lodged against Enrile, Honasan and Lacson.

Leaders of the two groups said the three men did not have the right to cry foul over the government's action because they themselves were "leading human rights' violators during the martial law regime."

But Bayan's Teodoro Casino and Bayan Muna's Satur Ocampo pointed out that the Macapagal administration should not resort to warrantless arrests as it could gather enough evidence to pin down the "coup plotters."

"There should be no mercy for the leaders of the failed coup. The government should vigorously purse the immediate arrest of the ringleaders and charge them in court," Casino said during the regular Kapihan sa Cypress yesterday.

Casino said that given the supposed record of Enrile, Lacson and Honasan of having no regard for the rights of the masses, it did not come as a surprise that they would carry out their coup plot at the expense of the pro-Estrada masses.

"If we compare the march to Malacañang by anti-Estrada groups on Jan. 20, it was done only after the fact that the Armed Forces had been neutralized. So, there was a very little possibility that untoward incidents would arise. Also, the leaders marched in front to protect the whole group," he pointed out.

But in the case of the May 1 march by pro-Estrada protesters, he said, no leaders went with them to Malacañng. ***With reports from Juliet L. Javellana, Rocky Nazareno, Christine Avendaño Andrea Trinidad-Echavez and AFP***

Estrada, JPE deny plot to kill Gloria

(From page A1)

tional successor to assume the presidency," she said in a radio interview, recalling the alleged plan.

Estrada, for his part, laughed off the report of the planned assassinations, saying Enrile, who has been implicated in the alleged plot, "is not a traitor and could not do it to him," according to Estrada's lawyer Raymond Fortun.

The government, however, continued to treat the intelligence report seriously.

"That is true. When I was not President yet, when we were still holding protest actions, the intelligence report showed that their plan was to assassinate me because I was the constitutional successor," Ms Macapagal said in an interview broadcast over RMN radio.

Philippine National Police chief Director Gen. Leandro Mendoza said the group that allegedly planned the assassinations was made up of politicians, as well as private citizens who provided funds. He was not more specific.

The President confirmed that intelligence agents had discovered the alleged plot in the political turmoil leading to the collapse of the beleaguered Estrada administration.

She declined to identify the brains behind the alleged assassination plot, but confirmed that the intelligence report said the plotters planned to set up a junta.

"I leave that to our prosecutors. We will reveal that in court," she said.

Ms Macapagal also expressed confidence that she would be able to deal with any threats to her government after she lifts tomorrow the "state of rebellion" declared after the assault on Malacañang.

Johnny hits back

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez earlier charged that violent riots by Estrada supporters Tuesday were part of the scheme to eliminate both Ms Macapagal and Estrada so the Enrile-led junta could take over.

But Enrile charged that the allegations were "a desperate attempt to fracture the unity" of the Puwersa ng Masa-LDP opposition coalition ahead of national elections on May 14, and were intended to alienate him from Estrada and the rest of the party.

Enrile said he spoke to former first lady Luisa "Loi" Ejercito, as well as party officials, and they agreed to "dismiss the rumor and remain focused on the remaining days of the senatorial campaign."

He also said he was confident voters would not be fooled by the allegations.

'Mission impossible'

Fortun, Estrada's legal counsel, said the deposed president told him that "there was nothing he could do if there was a so-called intelligence report, but he just laughed it off because he said he personally knows Enrile and there is no way that it could be true."

Estrada does not only "trust (Enrile) very much" but also believes that the senator is a man of integrity, Fortun said in an interview with radio station dyLA in Cebu City.

Like Estrada, Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago laughed off the conspiracy allegations, likening the plot to the movie "Mission Impossible."

"*Nakakatawa naman yan, para namang si* Tom Cruise *sa* Mission Impossible," she said in a separate radio interview in Cebu City.

But in Lucena City, Quezon Rep. Wigberto Tañada described the allegations as "serious." "I do not think that the government will make these allegations unless it possesses the evidence to back these up," the People Power Coalition senatorial candidate told the Inquirer in a phone interview. Perez has said that the government has at least two witnesses to testify on the alleged assassination plot, while police have said they have six witnesses who are willing to testify on both the alleged slay plan and the conspiracy to oust Ms Macapagal through a coup.

Mendoza reiterated that the masterminds of the plot would also be charged with rebellion in court.

"Of course, yes. This is a conspiracy. If it can be proven that it is a conspiracy, then the act of one is the act of all," Mendoza said after attending a luncheon hosted by the President at the Palace.

"The (justice) secretary is evaluating (the evidence). We are supporting the investigation," Mendoza said.

Mopping up

Calm has returned to the capital after at least six people were killed and more than 100 injured in the attack on the Palace.

"Right now, it is quiet around the country and we are just mopping up the leaders of the violent attack on May 1, and on Monday I will lift the 'state of rebellion," Ms Macapagal said in the radio interview.

"There are still threats, but we will be able to address them in the regular manner."

Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Diomedio Villanueva said the President would be well secured when the state of rebellion is lifted.

"(There are no) special preparations. She's adequately protected right now by the (Presidential Security Guard)," Villanueva said.

Police officials earlier identified the alleged leaders behind a plan to oust Ms Macapagal through the march on Malacañang as Enrile, Santiago, Sen. Gringo Honasan, former PNP chief Panfilo Lacson, ex-ambassador Ernesto Maceda and Estrada son JV Ejercito.

But while the officials said that the suspects supported the Labor Day attack on Malacañang, they did not accuse any of the politicians—and certainly not Ejercito—of plotting to assassinate Estrada and the President. ***With reports from Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau; and Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau***

GMA visits jailed rioters in Camp Crame

(From page A1)

"I have forgiven you," the President, clad in denims, told the detainees at the Jose Abad Santos Hall of Justice.

But Ms Macapagal ignored Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, one of the suspected leaders of the rebellion. He was occupying a cell, a stone's throw away from the hall.

Ms Macagapal, accompanied by her husband Jose Miguel Arroyo and PNP Director General Leandro Mendoza, sat down on a bench and talked for about 30 minutes with five of the detainees, including two elderly women from Candelaria, Quezon.

They were among the thousands of Estrada supporters who flocked to the Edsa Shrine last week and took part in the May 1 riot outside Malacañang in which four people were killed and about 100 others were injured. About 100 suspected rioters have been arrested.

"*Hindi ako ang kalaban ninyo* (I'm not your enemy)," Ms Macapagal told the detainees, most of whom denied they were part of the crowd that hurled rocks and battled government troops during the siege.

She assured the detainees that she harbored no ill will toward them and that only their leaders would be held accountable for the violence.

"They incited you and later abandoned you," Ms Macagapal told them. She earlier said that some of the rioters had "no inkling about politics."

Dennis Antipolo, one of the detainees, said he regretted joining the so-called "Edsa Tres."

"*Nagising na po kami sa katotohanan* (We have woken up to reality)," he told the President.

Vina Luistro, a 24-year-old woman from Batangas, even thought she was talking with the First Lady.

Ms Macapagal held her hands and asked her to think carefully who she was.

"*Ngayon, kinikilala mo na ba ako na Presidente* (Now, do you recognize me as the President)?" Ms Macapagal asked Luistro who nodded in return.

The President ordered the transfer of 15 female detainees to welfare homes run by the Department of Social Welfare and Development that she headed during the Estrada administration.

Twenty eight male detainees were remanded to the custody of their respective barangay captains. Doctors accompanying the President also gave the jailed men medical check-ups.

On Thurdsay, Ms Macapagal also visited about 60 Estrada supporters detained at the Western Police District headquarters in Manila.

On the same day, she met with Estrada at Fort Sto. Domingo in Sta. Rosa, Laguna, where he is detained ahead of his Sandiganbayan trial on plunder charges.

After the meeting, Ms Macapagal said she had ordered more privileges and amenities for Estrada.

Land inheritance

On Friday, Ms Macapagal said she and her husband would donate to the poor more than a thousand hectares of land to encourage the rich to do their share in alleviating poverty in the country.

"In the interest of leadership by example, let me reiterate my personal contribution to bridging the gap within those who have and those who do not have in our country," she said in a meeting with civic leaders at Malacañang, three days after the deadly street violence.

Ms Macapagal said the Macaraeg estate, a large tract of land in Iligan City that she had inherited from her late mother, would be given to the government "for urban land reform."

She also said the family of her husband "is offering their more than a thousand hectares of Arroyo sugar land" in Negros Occidental for agrarian reform.

She encouraged the elite to follow her example.

"I am not preaching communism. I am invoking Christian love and charity and social justice," she said.

"The privileged Filipinos must realize that true justice, development, democracy and reconciliation in our land will not happen without the willingness of the elite to share or give up some of the wealth and power."

At the same time, however, the President took the occasion to chide the politicians who manipulate the poor for their selfish interests.

"In the past week, we saw how manipulative politicians stoked the flames of class warfare among our poor and oppressed brothers and sisters. That is the wrong way for them. Instead I call on everyone to embrace the core values of my government—winning the war against poverty, improving moral standards, promoting the politics of consultation, leading by example not just in government but all across society," she said.

"Our cause is just, our objective is clear. With God's grace and the people's interest in our heart, we will not fail."

Raptors slam door on Knicks

NEW YORK—The Toronto Raptors won their first playoff series and for the first time in a decade, the New York Knicks won't be going to the second round.

Vince Carter and the Raptors took control in the third quarter and held off the undersized, foul-plagued, mistake-prone Knicks down the stretch Friday night for a 93-89 victory in the fifth and deciding game of their first-round series.

Carter, Alvin Williams, Chris Childs and Antonio Davis made the clutch shots and kept their composure in the biggest game in the Raptors' history to send the Knicks to their earliest playoff exit since 1991.

Toronto moves on to a second-round series against Philadelphia beginning Sunday, while the Knicks headed off to the longest summer any of them have had in a long time.

Carter played with poise all night and scored 27 points, while Williams added 18, Davis had 14, Charles Oakley 12 and Childs 10.

Most important, the Raptors didn't get too rattled _ although they came close _ when the Knicks pulled within two points on four separate occasions in the final quarter.

Latrell Sprewell scored 29 points for the Knicks, who missed every shot they needed in the final two minutes and could never take a lead despite pulling within two points four times and within one point once in the fourth quarter.

Allan Houston added 16 and Marcus Camby shot 5-for-7 and had 11 points and eight rebounds in 35 minutes before fouling out with 6:15 left.

The key statistic was second-chance points, with the Raptors outscoring New York 17-7 in that category as they kept the Knicks off the offensive glass all night.

The game turned Toronto's way in the third quarter after the Knicks pulled to 56-53 but then went four minutes without a basket. Oakley put back an offensive rebound. Carter scored four straight points and Davis drew Camby's fourth foul and made both free throws for a 64-57 lead.

Thomas picked up his fourth foul with five minutes left in the third, and Davis hit both foul shots and then scored over Othella Harrington. A jumper by Childs made it 70-57 with 2:48 left in the third, and Houston picked up his fifth foul 13 seconds later.

A foul shot by Jerome Williams gave Toronto a 71-59 lead early in the fourth, but the Raptors started feeling the pressure and getting sloppy with the ball and the Knicks finally started grabbing some offensive rebounds.

Thomas scored twice on putbacks in an 8-0 run that pulled the Knicks to 73-71, but Carter hit a 3-pointer with 6:53 left. A 3 by Charlie Ward again made it a two-point game, but Alvin Williams scored Toronto's next five points, Childs hit a 5-meter (17-foot) shot and Davis scored on a turnaround from the baseline to make it 85-80 with 2:52 left.

A dunk by Sprewell and a bank shot by Thomas made it 81-80, but Childs answered with a jumper. Glen Rice missed a 3 and Sprewell missed a putback.

Alvin Williams made two free throws with 32 seconds left, making it 91-83 and sending the fans heading toward the exits.

Just like in Game 4, the Knicks shot great from the field in the first half (56 percent) yet still managed to fall behind. The Raptors held a 49-43 halftime lead behind 12 second-chance points and a 14-2 run that began with a 3-pointer by Carter and turned a 29-27 deficit into a 41-31 lead. *AP*

Spurs-Mavs on TV

VIVA Vintage Sports will telecast Game One of the NBA Western Conference semifinals between the San Antonio Spurs and the Dallas Mavericks at noon today on RPN-9.

With twin-towers Tim Duncan and David Robinson on the top of their game, the cohesive Spurs looked formidable in sweeping the Minnesota Timberwolves, 3-0, in the playoffs' first round.

RAPTOR Jerome Williams celebrates in the closing seconds of the Raptors' 93-89 win over the Knicks in the deciding Game 5 of their NBA Eastern Conference first round playoff series. REUTERS

Eustaquio posts lone RP victory

ATENEO'S Judson Eustaquio clinched the Philippines' lone victory in the Asia-Pacific junior golf championships in Sarawak, Malaysia, by topping Class C with plenty to spare on Friday.

Eustaquio made a return trip to the winners' podium three years after ruling Class D with an overpowering performance that saw him shoot down three Thai bets.

Eustaquio, 12, closed out with a two-over-par 74 for a 219 aggregate that gave him a seven-stroke victory over Chinnarat Phadulsil (226). Another Thai, Supravee Phantam, wound up third at 227.

Matthew Manotoc finished seventh with a 243 total.

Jungolf leaders Amalia Montecillo and Merwin Mediana hailed the victory of Judson, saying it could signal a big year for local jungolf in the international front.

"This is a good sign for us, we know we have the talents to conquer the international meets again," said jungolf chair Montecillo.

Paz makes netfest semis

UNRANKED Ronald Paz beat fifth seed Pop Sabandon, 5-7, 6-4, 6 -3, to enter the men's singles semifinals in the P100,000 Luis Hilado Memorial Cup at the NOTA tennis court in Bacolod City.

The victory sent the former NCAA MVP up against top seed and ex-RP Davis Cupper Adelo Abadia, who scored a 6-3, 6-1 win over No. 8 Nino Salvador.

Second seed Rolando Ruel Jr. and No. 6 Jesus Lapore nailed the last two semifinal berths in the Philta-sanctioned tournament sponsored by the Negros Tennis Foundation, Mariposa Foundation Inc. and Dunlop.

Ruel, a national team mainstay, defeated No. 7 Jun Cabrera, 6-1, 2-0 (ret.), to advance against Lapore, a member of the RP team coaching staff, who eliminated third seed Michael Mora III, 6-1, 7-5

Buenavista, Obiena scoop golds in Bangkok

SYDNEY Olympian Eduardo Buenavista and Emerson Obiena spearheaded the country's fine showing yesterday, scooping two gold medals in the second day of the Thailand National Open Track and Field Championships at the Thammasat Stadium in Bangkok.

The 21-year-old Buenavista clocked nine minutes and 01.08 seconds to rule the 3,000-meter steeplechase and beat teammate Daud Mama, who broke the tape in 9:16.03.

Though Buenavista was satisfied with the win, he could not hide his disappointment on the absence of Jirasak Suthichat, one of Thailand's prime bets in the track.

Athletics chief Go Teng Kok said Suthichat, who beat Buenavista two years ago in the same event, is in the United States where he has been training rigidly for the Kuala Lumpur Southeast Asian Games in September.

"Probably Thailand doesn't want to display its top bets in the SEA Games and be scouted by other countries," said Go, who vowed to concentrate on Patafa's programs in preparation for the SEA Games

Similarly, Obiena had a virtual stroll in the park, clearing 4.80 meters in the men's pole vault to shame his Thai and Malaysian rivals.

Obiena was 15 cm short of his personal best of 4.95 meters done during the 1999 National Open.

The Philippines also hauled two silver medals courtesy of heptathlete Perceli Molina and Christabel Martes, the country's top woman long-distance runner.

Molina could only score a total of 4,996 points to put her in second place behind eventual winner Wassana Winatho of Thailand.

Martes, on the other hand, broke the tape in 37:40.00, which is good for a silver in the women's 10,000 meters ruled by another Thai campaigner.

June Navarro

SPORTSWATCH

De La Hoya agrees to deal

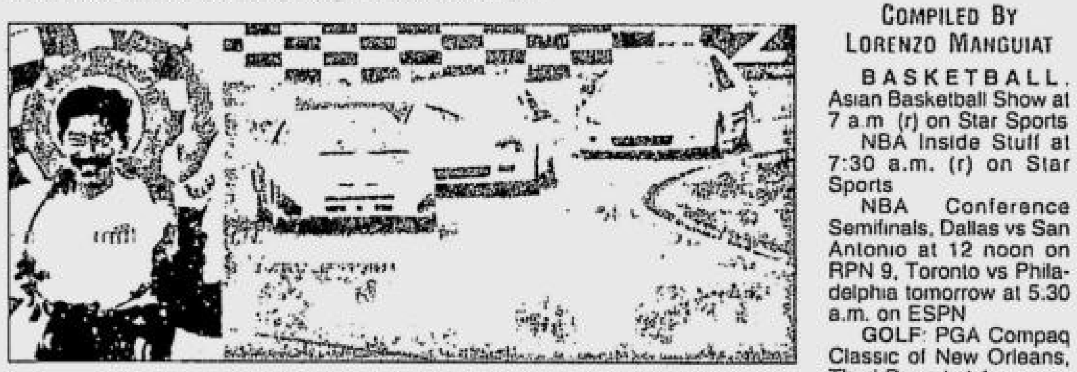
NEW YORK —Oscar De La Hoya, a former champion in four weight classes, agreed Friday to a multi-fight television contract with Home Box Office and Univision, said a Spanish-language network. De La Hoya's next fight is scheduled for June 23 in Las Vegas against WBC super welterweight champion Francisco Javier Castillejo. De La Hoya, 28, has a career record of 33-2, including 27 knockouts. He stopped Arturo Gatti in the fifth round in his most recent fight, on March 24. *AP*

Frankie slips to 6th place

FRANKIE Miñoza carded an even-par 71 yesterday and slipped to a share of sixth place after three rounds of the $900,000 Fujisankei Classic at the Kawana Hotel course in Ito, Japan. Miñoza, third after the second round, stood 10 strokes behind Lin keng Chi of Taiwan, who shot a 67-203. In the Chick Fil-A tournament of the LPGA in Stockbridge, Georgia, Jenny Rosales scored a 71 for 36th place while Dorothy Joy Delasin could only score a 74 to be in the group at 81st. Dottie Pepper and Sara Sanders showed the way by a stroke with similar 66s. *Jong Arcano*

Bowlmart stars prevail

BOWLMART'S stars sparkled recently to rule the team and doubles events in the 33rd MTBA (Manila Tenpin Bowling Association) at Bowling Inn on Taft Avenue. Chester King, CJ Suarez, Benny Dytoc and Botchock Rey combined for 2643 pinfalls as Bowlmart beat Sta. Lucia East (2564) and Valian 2 (2503) in the team competition. Cecilia Yap and Liza del Rosario tallied 1379 to power Bowlmart to victory over UBL's Raoul Miranda and Eric Dy (1377) and Prima's Biboy Rivera and Arnold Lecaros (1355) in the doubles event.



TOP DRIVER
Three of the country's top rally drivers, led by Ferdie Ong (left) of Rota-Speedwel-Outlast Battery, compete in the third round of the Petron Grand Prix Blaze super saloon series at the Subic International Raceway.

Tyson sues to force Rahman fight

NEW YORK -Mike Tyson filed suit in U.S. District Court in Manhattan Friday in an effort to force a fight with Hasim Rahman, the new WBC-IBF heavyweight champion.

Rahman knocked out Lennox Lewis in the fifth round April 21 in South Africa.

"The action I took today was not something that I wanted to do, but needed to do," Tyson said in a statement Friday. "There are people trying to abuse the system to prevent me from an opportunity to fight the new heavyweight champion."

There was a rematch clause in the Rahman-Lewis contract, and Lewis contends Rahman should fight no one else before he fights him. HBO, which has a contract with Lewis, wants the rematch to be held in September. When Rahman won, he inherited a WBC mandatory defense, which would be against Tyson, who is the WBC's No. 1 contender. *AP*

The Derby is a race like no other

LOUSVILLE, Kentucky —Owner Mike Pegram got a big kick and a big check out of Captain Steve's victory in the $ 6 million Dubai World Cup in March, but it didn't match the thrill he got when his Real Quiet won the Kentucky Derby in 1998.

"If you guaranteed me another win in the World Cup or gave me a good chance to win the Derby, I'd go for the Derby," said Pegram, who does not have a horse in the race Saturday. "If you asked people who've won the Derby what race they'd most like to win again, you know what the answer would be."

Trainer Nick Zito knows exactly what Pegram means

"The Derby is the Derby," said Zito, who twice has won the race. After a year's absence he's back for the 10th time with A P Valentine, co-owned by Rick Pitino, the new basketball coach at the University of Louisville. *AP*

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Petitioner 2. Kara Bambina 3. Queen Jaime 4. Sun Bright
Race 2—1. Favorite Trick 2. Mrs. Big 3. First of All
Race 3—1. Inner Wheeler 2. Solany Belle 3. River Bandit 4. Looks Like It 5. Patikim
Race 4—1. Marinela 2. Lovely Luigi 3. Blaze and Fortune 4. Magnicolo
Race 5—1. Kitana 2. Hacker 3. Man of the Hour 4. Water Polo 6. South Rim
Race 6—1. Golden Eagle 2. Sonata 3. District Three 4. Latin Beat 5. Speed Master
Race 7—1. Power Drive 2. Silver Rose
Race 8—1. Batangas Entry 2. Gutmoore 3. Lord of All 4. Fireball 5. Heredera
Race 9—1. Reign of Glory 2. Make Your Mark 3. Guts Pleaser 4. Respect the Ace
Race 10—1. Materiales Fuertes 2. Be Quiet 3. Victoria Scarlet 4. Terribly One 5. Doña Josefina
Race 11—1. Cool Zam/Party Princess 2. Pep Up 3. Super Strong 4. Corporate Law 5. Dixie Melody
Race 12—1. Hinobaan's Pride 2. Star of Arabia 3. Filthy Rich/Red Hahn 4. Magic Fingers/Sky Wind 5. Katya
Race 13—1. Bulwak 2. Main Street 3. Exchange Deal 4. Black Ijhay 5. Gold and Dollar

Sports seminars slated

THE MAKATI Amateur Sports Association will conduct seminars this year in line with its mission of providing a basic sports program for city residents.

JOSEPH

Masa president Mark Joseph said topics would dwell on the importance of sports in achieving a healthy, disciplined, goal-oriented and drug-free youth.

"This is the vision of the Makati Amateur Sports Association. And it can only be realized if we focus our efforts on the mission, which is to provide sports for all," said Joseph, who took up a sports management course in the Hungarian University.

Joseph pointed out that sports should not be used merely as a stepping stone to achieve that goal but also as a way of life toward nation-building. He said speakers knowledgeable in the field would be invited.

A councilor of Makati's first district, Joseph is also batting for the inclusion of a sports management course in the city's own tertiary learning institution, the Pamantasan ng Makati.

"A sports management course will give the people of Makati a bird's eyeview on the proper training and handling of athletes," said Joseph. "We have a lot of sports and training facilities available in the city but the lack of capable instructors defeats its purpose."

The Makati Sports Club, YMCA Makati, the MetroClub, Don Bosco Technical Institute and Colegio de San Agustin are some of the institutions offering swimming scholarships to deserving athletes, according to Joseph.

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

BASKETBALL. Asian Basketball Show at 7 a.m (r) on Star Sports

NBA Inside Stuff at 7:30 a.m. (r) on Star Sports

NBA Conference Semifinals, Dallas vs San Antonio at 12 noon on RPN 9, Toronto vs Philadelphia tomorrow at 5.30 a.m. on ESPN

GOLF: PGA Compaq Classic of New Orleans, Third Round at 1 p.m. on Star Sports

Golfglobe 2001 at 5 p.m. on Star Sports

LPGA Chick Fil-A Charity Championship, First Round at 5 p.m. on ESPN

TENNIS: ATP Tennis Show at 7:30 p.m. on ESPN

It's Jolet

DEFENDING champion Jolet Jao and Rod Scott shared top honors in the kickoff leg of the National Super Bike Series, one of the featured events in the "BRC Formula Speedway" at the Batangas Racing Circuit last Sunday.

Jao, who is seeking an unprecedented third title in four years, survived a brief scare before beating former champion Toti Alberto in the season-opening race in the series organized by the Batangas Racing Circuit Association and sanctioned by the National Motorcycle Sports and Safety Association.

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Del Rosario humbles male rivals

CALTEX Revtex rider Wacky del Rosario does a 'Superwoman' as she beat seven male rivals in the FIM-sanctioned NAMSSA Pagcor Philippine Grand Prix at the Batangas Racing Circuit.

Del Rosario, also backed up by Quickload Ice and Metzeler Tires, copped a perfect finish by topping the qualifying run, the Moto 1 and the final race where she clocked 27:54.461. Strong privateer Jose Reyes IV came as her closest rival, checking in just three seconds behind with 27:57.542 while Factory Ducati Irishman Thomas Ryan landed third with a time of 28:03.490.

Sunday SPORTS
AL S. MENDOZA, Editor EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

JRC wrests solo lead

JOSE Rizal's Heavy Bombers held off a spirited rally by University of Santo Tomas-B to win 72-67, and grab solo Group B leadership in the 7th Fr. Martin Cup invitational basketball tournament at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum. Ariel Capus fired 17 points to power the Bombers to their second straight win.

PBA FINALS

Beermen tackle Gins today

SCh .DULE TODAY (Araneta Coliseum)
4:00 p.m.—Ms PBA Mythical Five
6:15 p.m.—Ginebra vs San Miguel

BY MARC ANTHONY REYES

THE EXPECTED blockbuster PBA All-Filipino Cup championship series begins today with well-loved teams Barangay Ginebra and San Miguel Beer clashing at 6:15 p.m. at the Araneta Coliseum.

Apart from their huge following, Ginebra and San Miguel have things in common that add luster to the best-of-seven title series.

Both happen to be under the same management and the same consultant: Ron Jacobs, who vowed not to show up for the duration of the series.

They also boast the hottest players in the league—from the likes of Danny Ildefonso to Danny Seigle of San Miguel to Vergel Meneses and rookie Mark Caguioa of Ginebra.

However, what would matter more in the series are the things that separate the two squads.

San Miguel is immune to championship pressure with its record 15 conference titles, including four in the last six conferences.

Ginebra, on the other hand, struggled its way to a first Finals stint in four years. The Gins are looking for their fifth title.

"San Miguel is almost like a complete team," admitted Ginebra coach Allan Caidic. "But in basketball you can't be too sure, look at what happened to Shell."

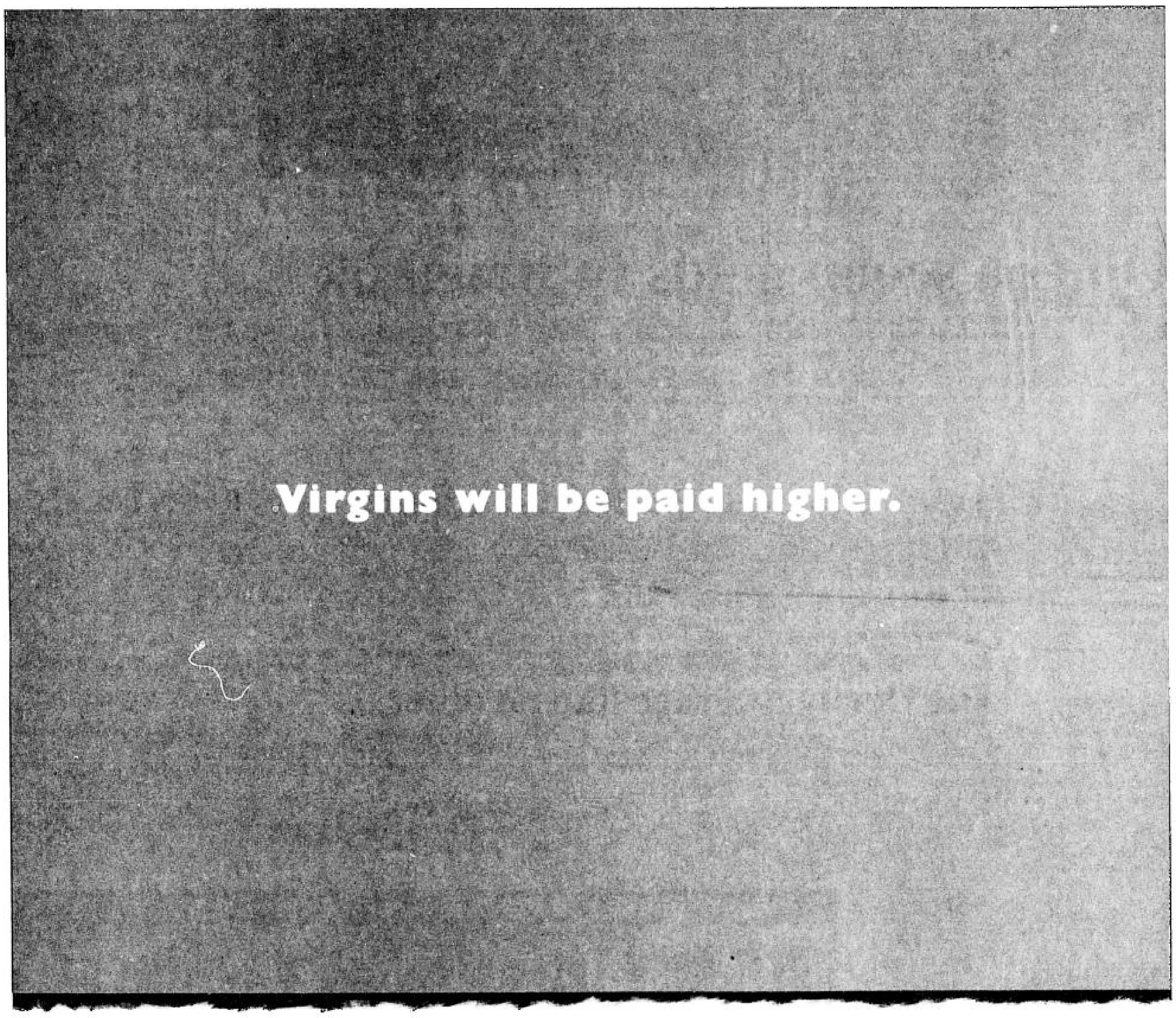
Shell, the elimination topnotcher, rallied from 0-2 to 2-2 in their best-of-five semis series only to get overwhelmed by Ginebra's fourth quarter rage in Friday's Game 5.

San Miguel is also on its 23rd championship stint, the last four it went on to win the title, thereby giving coach Jong Uichico a perfect 4-of-4 title series slate.

"They (Gins) have a strong lineup and they are coming from a rousing win, it's going to be a very interesting series," said Uichico, who like Caidic played for Jacobs in the national team back in the 1980s.

Nonetheless, the Beermen clearly got the edge in size and in match-ups, having a solid eight-man rotation bolstered by role-players.

The Gin Kings will be relying on speed and shooting, the same weapons they used to slay the favored Turbochargers.



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Sony Life

Gerry stops foe in Rd. 1

BY JUNE NAVARRO

GERRY Peñalosa hardly worked up a sweat in retaining his WBC International superflyweight crown last night at the Araneta Coliseum.

With a solid left, Peñalosa sent challenger Keiji "The Prince" Yamaguchi down on his knees midway of the first round en route to keeping his title before hundreds of raving fans.

Peñalosa then rained more punches on the troubled Yamaguchi, forcing the Japanese's handlers to throw in the towel with 1.33 to go.

The 28-year-old Peñalosa improved his ring record to 43-3-2, spiked by 27 stoppages.

Yamaguchi, a former WBA light flyweight titlist, suffered his sixth loss against 29 victories.

The victory paved the way for Peñalosa's mandatory title shot against the winner between Japanese Masamori Tokuyama and Korean In Joo Cho on May 20 in Seoul.

Peñalosa also evaded his pre-fight pronouncement that he will retire if he loses to Yamaguchi.

Earlier, RP junior lightweight champion Randy Suico floored Khumphoon Eausamphan of Thailand with a second left in the second round to score his 14th win, 12 by knockout.

Joma Gamboa, a former WBA minimumweight titlist, followed Suico's footsteps by taking the sting out of another Thai, Pigmy Muangchaiya, via technical knockout in the fifth round.

Gamboa staggered Muangchaiya 1.39 in the fifth forcing the referee to halt the fight.

Jong's mission

UICHICO

JONG Uichico and the San Miguel Beermen are used to PBA championships. Yet, they can't help but salivate whenever the All-Filipino crown is mentioned.

After all, it has been seven years since the Beermen won the All-Filipino. And Uichico wasn't at the helm then.

"Everybody in the team wants to win this. Even our supporters, right from Day One of the season, know that our goal is to finally win an All-Filipino title," said Uichico, who has steered the Beermen to victory in four of the last six conferences. Unfortunately, the AFC remains elusive and this has made the Beermen even hungrier.

"You can sense that this team really wants to wi the All-Filipino. That itself motivates the player already," said Uichico, voted as last year's best coach.

San Miguel last won the AFC in 1994, when the title also meant a ticket to the Hiroshima Asia Games. The Beermen went on a skid after that and i took the arrival of Danny Ildefonso in 1998 befor they would advance to the finals again. The Alask Milkmen foiled them that time.

With the arrival of Danny Seigle the Beerme became dominant, but Uichico knows that their roste is far from complete. Enter Dorian Peña, who ha proven that he can contribute even with a shin injury

"No doubt about it, we have more tools than w had in 1998, but it is still a matter of getting thes tools to work together," said Uichico.

Now that the All-Filipino crown is within reach Uichico wouldn't want to let it slip away again.

Allan's vindication

CAIDIC

VINDICATION has come for Allan Caidic and Jun Limpot.

They've proven themselves worthy of their jobs— Caidic as head coach and Limpot as franchise player.

They silenced critics Friday night, when Barangay Ginebra stunned Formula Shell in the deciding Game 5 of their All-Filipino semifinals series.

Caidic, whose young coaching career has bee beset with frustrations, showed poise and confidenc during the Turbochargers' final charge, while Limpo whose devotion was being questioned, produced splendid performance.

"I've been here in the PBA eight years and I'v never been to the championships. It's been all ove my mind," said Limpot, the Sta. Lucia Realtors' mai man before moving to Ginebra last year.

Turning more aggressive, Limpot produced 2 points and grabbed 9 rebounds in a no-relief stint.

"Give credit to my veterans, especially Jun," sai Caidic, who'll be coaching in the Finals for the firs time.

Tonight, Caidic and Limpot will be treading o unfamiliar ground. But neither is worried.

Ginebra was given little chances against Shell an yet it pulled through. The Beermen are inde formidable, but not invincible.

Giv triumphs

BY DENNIS U. EROA

GIV BEAUTY Soap and PharmaQuick poste contrasting wins over their respective rival fortifying their Group A quarterfinals bid last nigh in the PBL Chairman's Cup at the Maka Coliseum.

Unforgiving in its defense, GIV waltzed past listle Hapee Toothpaste, 57-46, in the first game, whil PharmaQuick survived Jessie Cabanayan's miracl shot in regulation to trip Osaka Iridology, 88-85.

GIV and PharmaQuick improved their records t 4-3, same mark of defending champion Welco Challenge Cup champion Shark Energy Drink get the top slot with an unblemished 8-0 mark, followe by Ana Freezer with a 5-1 card.

The top four teams will comprise Group A, wit the remaining five being relegated to Group B.

Cabanayan sank a miracle shot from 60 feet whic forced the extra five minutes, 74-74. But Leo Avenid and Bruce Dacia enabled PharmaQuick to surviv with their clutch hits.

Shooter Eguy Billones and Edwin Bacani finished i double figures but what really lifted GIV was its defen as it limited Hapee to a conference-low 48 points.

METRO CAMPAIGN TRAIL A22

METRO
LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Boy, 2, nanny escape from kidnappers' lair A22

2 mayors face arrest for rebellion

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA, JEROME ANING

PRESIDENT Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said two mayors, whom she did not identify, would be arrested for rebellion.

"That came from the Department of Justice," the President said in an interview with RMN radio. "My understanding is there is strong evidence against these two mayors."

She declined to identify the mayors, saying their names cropped up during the DOJ investigation of the leaders of the May 1 assault on Malacañang Palace by supporters of ousted President Joseph Estrada.

"There might be arrest orders for two mayors," she said. "But this did not come from me. The DOJ based its arrest orders on the result of its investigation."

2 MAYORS/ A22

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Young housewife hangs self in QC

By Philip C. Tubeza

A 23-YEAR-OLD housewife hanged herself at home in Quezon City, and police said she could have been depressed over unpaid bills and the hardships of raising a family of six.

Police identified the suicide as Rowena S. Altarojos, of Area 6, Sitio Cabuyon, Barangay Sauyo, Novaliches, Quezon City.

She used a nylon cord to hang herself in her home Friday afternoon, said investigator PO2 Randy Escobido of the Central Police District-Criminal Investigation Unit (CPD-CIU).

Altarojos was believed to have been depressed when she killed herself, Escobido said, but added that no suicide note was found.

The investigator said Altarojos and her youngest child, a six-month-old boy, were home alone when she committed suicide.

The woman's husband was working as a jeepney driver, Escobido said.

At around 3:15 p.m. Friday, Altarojos' cousin Joy Sampaga came to return one of the Altarojos children that had been entrusted to her.

The cousins said that no one opened the door despite her continued knocking.

Sampaga said she decided to peek inside the house through a window. She was shocked by what she saw, she told Escobido.

She saw Altarojos hanging from the ceiling by a nylon cord tied around her neck. The other end of the cord was tied to a beam in the ceiling of the house.

Besides the ligature marks on her neck, no signs of any other external injury were found on the woman, Escobido said.

Sampaga said she immediately checked on the six-month-old baby and found the boy unharmed.

"Unpaid bills and the hardships of life forced (Altarojos) to do it," PO2 Escobido said. "She did not have a quarrel with her husband."

He said Altarojos got married when she was only 15. Her husband is now in his 30s, he added.

The victim's body was brought to the Philippine National Police Crime Laboratory for autopsy.

Security guard, store helper slain over money

A SECURITY guard in Intramuros and a male store helper in Tondo, both in Manila, were shot dead yesterday and on Friday, police said.

Security guard Albert Aquino, 27, was shot dead yesterday after visiting his friends.

Aquino, married, a native of Banawag, Càbachan, Cotabato and a resident of San Jose, Alabang, Muntinlupa City, died at the Ospital ng Maynila from a gunshot wound in the left temple, police said.

SPO1 Benito Cabatbat of the Western Police District homicide section said the suspect was identified only as Danny. He was described as 25 to 28 years old, 5 feet tall, and of medium build.

Danny shot Aquino around 8 p.m. in a store on Cabildo Street at the Maisan Compound in Intramuros, police said.

Police were investigating reports that Danny, who was the security guard's townmate, had quarreled with the victim over an unsettled debt.

Danny escaped after the shooting.

Jose Marcelo, a resident of Tagumpay Street, Tondo, was stabbed by Saturno David at the corner of Sandico Tagumpay streets around 1 p.m. Friday, police said.

SPO1 Athos de Quiros of the WPD homicide section said that before the stabbing, David and Marcelo also quarreled over money.

Marcelo's sister Elsa Ceballos brought him to the Gat Andres Bonifacio Hospital where the surgeon on duty declared him dead on arrival. *Jerome Aning, Carina Roncesvalles*

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, May 6, 2001
4th Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: **Acts 13:14, 43-52**

Paul and Barnabas went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. On the sabbath day they entered the synagogue and sat down.

After that, when the assembly broke up, many Jews and devout God-fearing people followed them and to these they spoke, urging them to hold fast to the grace of God.

The following sabbath almost the entire city gathered to listen to Paul, who spoke a fairly long time about the Lord. But the presence of such a crowd made the Jews jealous. So they began to oppose with insults whatever Paul said.

Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out firmly, saying, "It was necessary that God's word be first proclaimed to you, but since you now reject it and judge yourselves to be unworthy of eternal life, we turn to non-Jewish people. For thus we were commanded by the Lord: I have set you as a light to the pagan nations, so that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth."

Those who were not Jews rejoiced when they heard this and praised the message of the Lord, and all those destined for everlasting life believed in it. Thus the Word spread throughout the whole region.

Some of the Jews, however, incited God-fearing women of the upper class and the leading men of the city, as well, and stirred up an intense persecution against Paul and Barnabas. Finally they had them expelled from their region. The apostles shook the dust from their feet in protest against this people and went to Iconium, leaving the disciples filled with joy and Holy Spirit.

2nd Reading: **Rev 7:9, 14-17**

I, John, saw a great crowd, impossible to count, from every nation, race, people and tongue, standing before the throne and the Lamb, clothed in white, with palm branches in their hands,

I answered, "Sir, it is you who know this."

The elder replied, "They are those who have come out of the great persecution; they have washed and made their clothes white in the blood of the Lamb.

This is why they stand before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his sanctuary. He who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. Never again will they suffer hunger or thirst or be burned by the sun or any scorching wind. For the Lamb near the throne will be their Shepherd, and he will bring them to springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away their tears."

Gospel: **Jn 10:27-30**

Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice and I know them; they follow me and I give them eternal life. They shall never perish and no one will ever steal them from me. What the Father has given me is stronger than everything and no one can snatch it from the Father's hand. I and the Father are one."

Commentary:

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday. It is a day when we ought to pray for those holding authority in the Church or in society to be true leaders in their spheres of competence. So many want to assume the position of shepherds but without the responsibility of knowing very well the people entrusted to them, so that they can more authentically promote their well-being. The reading is alluding to the belief in the Old Testament that God is the real shepherd, who got exasperated with the religious and political leaders' neglect of the people's welfare. Read Ezekiel 34!

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (EVIDENCE)—Private instruments—The documentary evidence submitted by the complaining witness are private instruments, being instruments executed by private persons without the intervention of a public notary or of other persons legally authorized, by which document some disposition or agreement is proved, evidenced, or set forth. Being private documents, their due and valid execution and their genuineness and authenticity must first be established, either by the testimony of any one who saw the writing executed or by evidence of the genuineness of the handwriting of the maker thereof. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Melo, Third Division, Ong v. People, G.R. No. 140904, October 9, 2000]

Digest by R.B. Vera

Boy, nanny escape from kidnappers' lair

By Gladys Tolete
and Lady Ann Briguera

A 2-YEAR-OLD boy and his nanny escaped from the safehouse of their kidnappers in a Manila slum Friday night, before the boy's father could give a P15-million ransom to the suspects.

Mark Tang Ho and his caregiver Jessica Atimbugan, 25, both residents of Sacred Heart Village, Novaliches, arrived around 9 p.m. Friday at the San Juan Police Precinct 6. They bore no injuries, police said.

Supt. Rodrigo de Gracia, the San Juan police chief, said Atimbugan and her ward, who is also her nephew, escaped with the help of a woman who was passing by the house where the suspects were holding the victims.

The woman, whom police did not identify, was passing by the house in a squatter colony in Bustillos, Sampaloc, Manila when she heard the boy wailing and Atimbugan shouting for help, police said.

The kidnappers had apparently left the boy and Atimbugan alone in the house. Police said the curious woman who heard their cries was able to break down the thin plywood wall that allowed the boy and Atimbugan to come out.

Atimbugan and her ward were kidnapped at dawn Thursday, police said. Five men who were wearing bonnets and were armed with a gun and knives broke into their townhouse at 4 a.m. Thursday, police said.

The townhouse compound guard let the five men in after they introduced themselves as friends of the family, said police.

The men hog-tied the boy's Japanese father, his common-law wife Malou Atimbugan, and the latter's unidentified sister and took P40,000 in cash from them, Superintendent De Gracia said.

The suspects and their two hostages drove away on board a Mitsubishi Hi-Lander and a private jeepney, police said.

The suspects brought the two hostages to the house in a Bustillos slum and later demanded that P15 million in ransom money be delivered to them in three days, police said.

The boy's father, who owns a trucking company, flew to Japan to get the money and is not yet aware of the recovery of his son, police said.

Teen, waitress shot in Pasay, Parañaque

By Alcuin Papa
and Jojo Arazas

A BOY in Pasay City and a waitress in Parañaque City were shot and wounded in a span of one hour yesterday morning.

In the first shooting, Albert Biotas, 16, was shot right in front of his house at 664 Protacio Extension, Pasay City, police said.

Police investigators said the shooting happened around 12:30 a.m. Biotas and his friend James Siman, 15, of Makati City, were talking in front of the Biotas house when a tricycle appeared and five men alighted from it.

One of the five men, identified only as Atong, shot Biotas in the right chest with a .22 revolver.

The five men then boarded the tricycle again and went toward P. Jorge Street, police said.

Biotas is being treated at the Pasay City General Hospital.

About an hour later, a waitress was shot while working in a videoke bar in Parañaque City.

SPO3 Odeo Carino of the Parañaque City Police Criminal Investigation Division identified the victim as Mirna Perez, 27, a resident of Tondo, Manila.

SPO3 Carino said the shooting took place around 1:30 a.m. on the second floor of the Cagami Karaoke Bar on Dimasalang Street in Barangay Baclaran, Parañaque City.

A customer who witnessed the shooting told police Perez was serving drinks when she suddenly slumped to the floor with blood oozing from her head.

"We were shocked because she suddenly fell on our table, spilling all our drinks," the customer said. "Because it was dark, we didn't realize at first that she had been shot. We thought at first she was just dizzy."

Police are still investigating both incidents to identify the suspects and the cause of the shootings.

2 killed as car rams into restaurant

By Philip C. Tubeza

A 19-YEAR-OLD student was seriously injured but his two passengers were killed when the car he was driving rammed into a restaurant in Quezon City yesterday before dawn.

Roque Higwit, of Novaliches, Quezon City, survived the car crash with injuries but his passengers Patrick Protacio and RJ Panis died in the car crash, said investigator SPO1 Themostocles S. Montalban of the Central Police District-Traffic Sector V.

Higwit's Chevy Nova (PTM-568) was a total wreck after it crashed into the Ulo-ulo Restaurant in Fairview, Quezon City, Montalban said.

He said the car was cruising along Commonwealth Avenue and was going toward Lagro when the accident happened around 3:30 a.m. yesterday.

Near Ulo-ulo Restaurant, Higwit apparently lost control of the steering wheel, Montalban said.

The car turned to the side of the road and then rammed into a mango tree, Montalban said.

The Chevy Nova then spun around and smashed into the glass windows of the restaurant.

Montalban said the car only stopped spinning after it hit the restaurant's concrete fence.

Panis and Protacio were brought to the Fairview General Hospital where they were declared dead on arrival, Montalban said.

Higwit was brought to the Far Eastern University Hospital in Fairview.

Police were preparing to file charges of reckless imprudence resulting in homicide against Higwit, Montalban said.

Investigators are also waiting for Ulo-ulo restaurant owner Antonio Quijano to decide if he would seek compensation for the damage to his restaurant, Montalban added.

METRO CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Edu: I'm not withdrawing

MAKATI City candidate Edu Manzano yesterday denied reports that he has withdrawn from the mayoral contest.

"Reports have been spreading that I have withdrawn my candidacy for mayor of Makati City," Manzano said in a press statement. "These reports are not true."

He described the reports as "fabrications of my opponent, who is desperate enough to resort to grand deception to avert impending defeat on May 14."

Manzano, who is the People Power Coalition candidate in Makati, is running against Jejomar Binay, former Makati mayor and former chair of the Metro Manila Development Authority.

"Deception is only one tool in my opponent's bag of dirty tricks to discredit me," Manzano said. "Bribery is another."

He alleged that his rival attempted "to persuade me to drop out of the mayoral contest by offering me P80 million. I turned him down. He cannot buy off the future of Makati City."

"I cannot let a man who has been linked to a conspiracy to overthrow the Arroyo government take over the City Hall of Makati again," Manzano said. "We have a big chance of dismantling the web of corruption that has choked the city for almost a decade. I cannot pass up that chance."

He appealed to his supporters "to stand firm against all attempts to stop us from reaching our goal—clean and transparent governance in Makati."

Group calls for early voting

THE CIVILIAN Volunteers of San Juan, Metro Manila, chaired by engineer Wenceslao Vinzons Tan, called on all registered voters in San Juan as well as in the entire nation to cast their votes as early as 7 a.m. on May 14.

Vinzons Tan stressed that by reporting to their voting precincts early, voters would have a better chance of tracing early their registered names and polling place, thus avoiding confusion; avoiding overcrowding in polling places; promoting orderliness and peace; making the work of election officers and teachers easier.

The San Juan Civilian Volunteers noted that confusion in polling precinct usually occur when voters ignore the importance of voting at the earliest possible time.

"Let us all contribute to the promotion of early voting to ensure honest, orderly and peaceful elections on May 14," Vinzons Tan said.

ALAY LAKAD PARA
LAPAD
LAS PIÑAS AYAW SA DYNASTY
WITH FR. ROBERT REY
BAYAN MUNA
KAPATIRANG GOMBURZA
DAMAKO
KAIBIGAN
ENTABLADO DE TEATRO DE LAS PIÑAS
BAGONG ALYANSANG MAKABAYAN LAS PIÑAS

RUNNING priest Robert Reyes (center) joined the anti-dynasty march spearheaded by the multi-sectoral group Las Piñas Ayaw sa Dynasty (Lapad) early Saturday morning. Gomburza Las Piñas chair El Cid Babas (to Reyes' left) and Lapad chair Felix Sinajon (fourth from right) also joined the march that started at SM Southmall. They pointed out that the powerful Aguilar-Villar clan, to which Las Piñas City Mayor Vergel Aguilar and senatorial candidate Rep. Manny Villar belong, has been ruling Las Piñas for decades. Rep. Villar's wife and Mayor Aguilar's sister Cynthia is running for a congressional seat; her sister Bes Aguilar Masangkay is a Muntinlupa City mayoral bet.

Rape suspect dies in jail

A SICK inmate of the Manila City Jail died yesterday morning, his illness aggravated by poor conditions in the congested jail.

Tedororico Diaz, 30, a member of the Batang City Jail gang who was facing a charge of attempted rape, vomited blood and complained of chest pains around 10:30 p.m. Friday, police said. He was brought to the nearby San Lazaro Medical Center, where he died 8 a.m. yesterday.

Doctors said he died of tuberculosis complications and cardio-respiratory failure.

SPO1 Steve Casimiro of the Western Police District homicide section said poor jail conditions worsened Diaz's health. *Jerome Aning, Jeusa Raflores*

Van runs over running kid

FRIDAY morning was the very last time Michael G. Dilampasig, 10, would ever play. After frolicking in the playground in his Mandaluyong City community, he ran out to cross the street and ran smack into death.

Dilampasig of the Welfareville Compound was run over by a Mitsubishi L-300 van driven by Agustin M. Fauchano, 39, also of Mandaluyong City.

Fauchano brought the boy to the Mandaluyong Medical Center before he himself surrendered to police. The boy was later transferred to the Orthopedic Hospital in Quezon City where he died of internal hemorrhage and a fractured chest later in the evening, said PO3 Carlito Guillarte.

The boy had come from the Palaruang Bayan and was running across busy Martinez Street when he was hit by Fauchano's van, Guillarte said. *Gladys Tolete, Lady Ann Briguera*

2 mayors face arrest for rebellion

(From page A21)

The President made the statement when the RMN anchors asked her whether the arrest of Mayors Lito Atienza of Manila, Amado Vicencio of Malabon and Jejomar Binay, former mayor of Makati City, had been ordered.

Earlier reports said Binay, Atienza and Vicencio were accused of providing manpower and logistical support to the pro-Estrada attackers of Malacañang.

On Friday, the National Bureau of Investigation said Atienza was not among the suspected mayors.

Binay on Friday night condemned attempts to link him to the alleged plot to overthrow the Macapagal government.

Binay made the statement during one of his campaign sorties amid reports that some of his political opponents in Makati have asked the NBI to investigate him and his wife, incumbent Mayor Elenita S. Binay.

"If they have a case against me, then I will face it," Binay said. "Since I have not broken any law, I have nothing to be afraid of."

He also denounced earlier media reports that he had gone into hiding. He said he never changed his daily routine of house-to-house campaigning and holding caucuses with his political leaders.

"Our Constitution and laws prescribe procedures for bringing persons charged with, or suspected of, a crime to the appropriate courts of law," he said. "But I am afraid that by starting and fueling speculations and all sorts of wild rumors, these unscrupulous people want to unfairly convict me in the minds of the public."

"It will be a sad day for democracy if the powers of government are used against its critics or personalities who just happen to belong to another political party," he said.

Atienza deplored the roundup of scores of Tondo residents suspected to be Estrada loyalists by alleged members of the police and the military.

"I'm quite apprehensive about the arrests because they were not coordinated with our local police force," Atienza told reporters during an afternoon news conference.

He said that even if the metropolis is under a "state of rebellion," government troops should still respect the rights of all residents. The mass arrests have been condemned by urban poor and human rights groups as "Gestapo-like."

Thursday night, scores of youths in Vitas, Tondo were hauled off in several trucks by alleged Army soldiers on suspicion that they participated in the looting and rioting that followed the violent dispersal of pro-Estrada groups outside Malacañang on May 1.

A Vitas resident told the INQUIRER yesterday that several of those rounded up have been released but were so frightened to say what happened to them and where they were taken.

During the raid, the power supply in the area was cut off and the "soldiers" proceeded to round up youths in the area, ordering them to take off their shirts and board 6x6 trucks. The power has not been fully restored as of press time.

Senior Supt. Nicolas Pasinos Jr., Western Police District director, told reporters that they were notified about the alleged operations only after these were completed. Even as Atienza spoke, urban poor groups claimed that "military men dressed in civilian clothes" again went to the Tondo area yesterday afternoon and rounded up several men.

Quoting members in the area, Milette Morante, Kilusan para sa Pambansang Demokrasya secretary general, and League of Urban Poor Advocates secretary general Jess del Prado reported that troops entered the Baseco and Parola compounds in Tondo and rounded up three truckloads of residents.

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6	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	HALIK NG SIRENA
7	DOLBY SURROUND	3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND
8	DOLBY SURROUND	SWEET NOVEMBER
9	DOLBY SURROUND	SUGAR & SPICE
10	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	BALIKTARAN

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1	DOLBY SURROUND	EXTREME WARRIORS
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6	DOLBY SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
7	DOLBY DIGITAL	EXIT WOUNDS
8	DOLBY SURROUND	THE MEXICAN
9	DOLBY SURROUND	BALIKTARAN
10	DOLBY SURROUND	3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND
11	DOLBY SURROUND	SUGAR & SPICE
12	DOLBY SURROUND	HALIK NG SIRENA

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2	DOLBY DIGITAL	SUGAR & SPICE
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4	DOLBY SURROUND	EXIT WOUNDS
5	DOLBY DIGITAL	RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT
6	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	EXIT WOUNDS
7	DOLBY SURROUND	SAY IT ISN'T SO
8	DOLBY SURROUND	ANTI-TRUST
9	DOLBY SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
10	DOLBY SURROUND	BALIKTARAN
11	DOLBY SURROUND	HALIK NG SIRENA
12	DOLBY SURROUND	3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND

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5	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
6	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
7	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SAY IT ISN'T SO
8	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT
9	DOLBY SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
10	DOLBY SURROUND	EXIT WOUNDS
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	THE MEXICAN
12	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SUGAR & SPICE

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3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	HALIK NG SIRENA
4	DOLBY SURROUND	SUGAR & SPICE
5	DOLBY SURROUND	3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND
6	DOLBY SURROUND	SAY IT ISN'T SO
7	DTS	THE MEXICAN
8	DOLBY DIGITAL	EXIT WOUNDS
9	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	ABAKADA...INA
10	DOLBY SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	BALIKTARAN
12	DOLBY SURROUND	SWEET NOVEMBER

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1	ULTRA SURROUND	SUGAR & SPICE
2	ULTRA SURROUND	SAY IT ISN'T SO
3	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	EXIT WOUNDS
4	ULTRA SURROUND	RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT
5	ULTRA SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
6	ULTRA SURROUND	BALIKTARAN
7	ULTRA SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
8	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	THE MEXICAN
9	ULTRA SURROUND	HALIK NG SIRENA
10	ULTRA SURROUND	3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND

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1	ULTRA SURROUND	EXIT WOUNDS
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	BALIKTARAN
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	HALIK NG SIRENA

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1	DOLBY SURROUND	THE MEXICAN
2	ULTRA SURROUND	THE GIFT
3	ULTRA SURROUND	DI MAPIGIL ANG INIT
4	ULTRA SURROUND	ABAKADA...INA
5	ULTRA SURROUND	AIR BUD 3
6	ULTRA SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
7	DOLBY SURROUND	EXIT WOUNDS

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1	ULTRA SURROUND	THE SEDUCER
2	ULTRA SURROUND	CLOSED
3	ULTRA SURROUND	AIR BUD 3
4	ULTRA SURROUND	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
5	ULTRA SURROUND	ABAKADA...INA
6	ULTRA SURROUND	EXIT WOUNDS
7	ULTRA SURROUND	CLOSED
8	ULTRA SURROUND	SECRET OF THE ANDES

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1	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND
2	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	THE MEXICAN
3	DOLBY SURROUND	ANTI-TRUST
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	SWEET NOVEMBER
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6 THE MEXICAN — In DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7 SUGAR AND SPICE — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

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1 SAY IT ISN'T SO — In DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2 EXIT WOUNDS — In SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3 SUGAR AND SPICE — In DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
4 Onstage

ALABANG TOWN CENTER
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2 SAY IT ISN'T SO — In DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3 THE MEXICAN — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4 RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
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7 GOLD (DOLBY) THE MEXICAN
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9 [illegible] NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
10 [illegible] HALIK NG SIRENA

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A EXIT WOUNDS

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3 HALIK NG SERENA
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3 RESERVE
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5 HALIK NG SERENA
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8 (SDDS) SAY IT ISN'T SO
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8 SUGAR & SPICE

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3 SUGAR & SPICE
4 NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
5 BALIKTARAN

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2 NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
3 BALIKTARAN
4 EXTREME WARRIOR
5 EXIT WOUNDS
6 INIT SA DUGO

Baclaran LRT CINEMA
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1 (DOLBY) BALIKTARAN
2 HALIK NG SERENA
3 EXIT WOUNDS
4
5

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
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2 BALIKTARAN
3 (DTS) EXIT WOUNDS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
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2 (DTS) HALIK NG SIRENA
3 (DOLBY) EXIT WOUNDS
4 BALIKTARAN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
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2 HALIK NG SERENA
3 EXIT WOUNDS
4 (DTS) THE MEXICAN

Lianas MovieCity
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2 NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
3 (DTS) EXIT WOUNDS
4 BALIKTARAN
5 SWEET NOVEMBER

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
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1 BALIKTARAN
2 EXIT WOUNDS
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Olivarez Los Baños
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2 EXIT WOUNDS
3 HALIK NG SERENA

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3 THE SEDUCER

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3 HALIK NG SERENA

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2 (DTS) HALIK NG SERENA

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385
1 BALIKTARAN

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657
1 BALIKTARAN
2 NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
3 MADERASO

Fiesta World Mall
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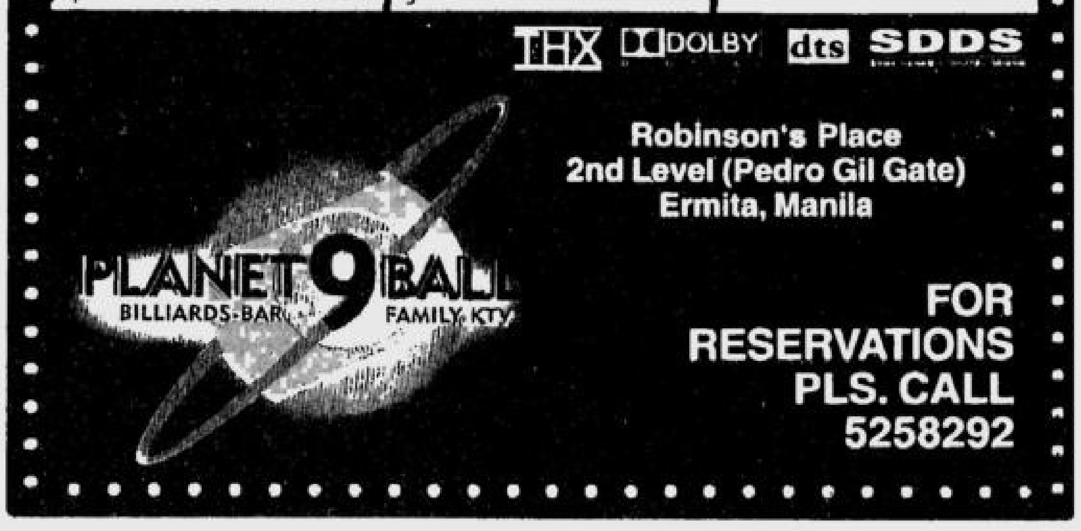

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The real thing again

(From page A27)

ground, especially considering that the Bee Gees never strayed too far from their original style and approach. Their songs have always boasted engaging narrative content, unabashed sentiment, guaranteed recall on refrains, not necessarily in that order.

One initial run-through of this latest CD and I was humming the whole of the title track all day, plus the refrains to "Loose Talk Costs Lives" and "Embrace." But even under strict critical and independent appraisal, "This Is Where I Came In" comes through more than passably well: Five chart candidates out of 12 entries is nothing to scoff at.

The title song is certainly "made" as of this writing. My four other bets are "Sacred Trust," "Wedding Day," "Loose Talk Costs Lives," and "Embrace."

For sure, many others will argue in favor of "She Keeps On Coming," which sounds so much like an early Beatles; "The Extra Mile," "Man in the Middle" and/or "Technicolor Dreams."

This last one, a nostalgia item, is playful and deftly executed, but will be easily crowded out by younger, more audacious offerings out in the field. Think in terms of Destiny's Child, Dido, or Baha Men.

Sense of roots

In 1978, when the Billboard Top 100 had five Bee Gees numbers in the first 10 slots, they were definitely "one of the biggest groups in the planet," according to current Billboard Editor Timothy White. The way they've made a comeback out of every setback, there's really no telling where this latest resurrection will lead.

I have three brothers who might have played music professionally, too, had family circumstances better favored an environment of uninterrupted musical creativity. One of them works abroad now, and caries his Bee Gees library—first on vinyl, then tape, and now CDs—everywhere with him. Any part of it that's damaged or lost in the course of his travels is quickly replaced.

When he's home on vacation, he spends a great deal of time in front of the videoke, singing his favored Gibb pieces—all 25 of them—over and over. He says they comprise the soundtrack of his life, and gives him a sense of roots.

Although I don't feel the same (I have my own musical scorer), I understand him perfectly.

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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	EXIT WOUNDS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	SAY IT ISN'T SO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	RECESS. SCHOOL'S OUT
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	SUGAR & SPICE
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	EXIT WOUNDS
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	BALIKTARAN
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	EXIT WOUNDS
MIRAMAR	VIRGIN WIFE/TOO MUCH FLESH
ODEON	EXIT WOUNDS
ODEON-2	EXTREME WARRIOR
ROBEN	BALIKTARAN
TANDEM-1	ALIW MATAMIS NA LASON
TANDEM-2	EVANGELINE 14
TIMES	HANNIBAL / WAY OF GUN
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	HALIK NG SIRENA
QUEZON-1	EXIT WOUNDS
REMAR	EXIT WOUNDS
REMAR-2	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
CUBAO	
OCEAN SUPERAMA	BABAENG PUTIK
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MANDALUYONG CITY	
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CINEMA-1	EXIT WOUNDS
CINEMA-2	RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT
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CINEMA-1	BALIKTARAN
CINEMA-2	3,000 MILES TO GRACELAND
CINEMA-3	HALIK NG SIRENA
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	EXTREME WARRIORS
CINEMA-6	ABAKADA...INA
CINEMA-7	INIT NG DUGO
CINEMA-8	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	EXIT WOUNDS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	THE MEXICAN
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	SUGAR & SPICE
CINEMA-12	SAY IT ISN'T SO
CINEMA-14	BALIKTARAN
CINEMA-15	NARINIG MO NA BA ANG LATEST
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	SUGAR & SPICE
CINEMA-2	RECESS: SCHOOL'S OUT
CINEMA-3	EXIT WOUNDS
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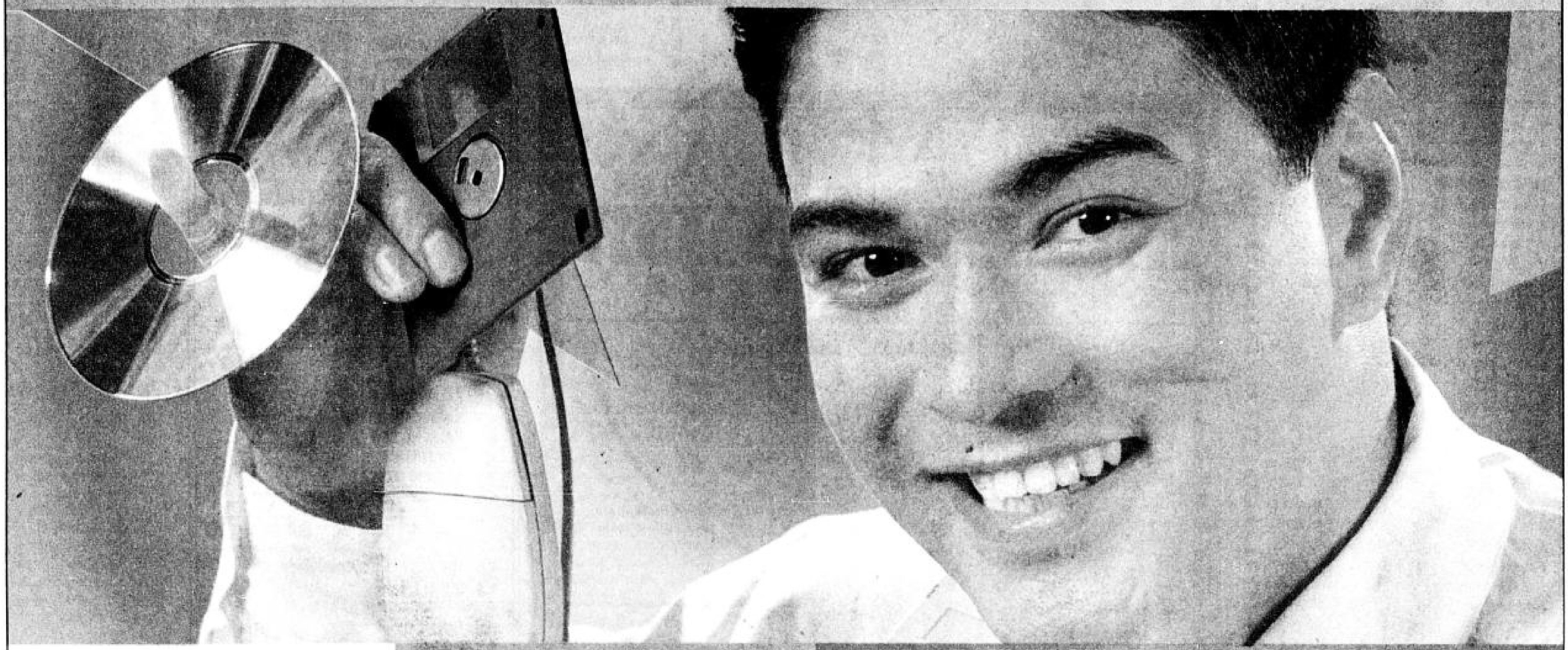

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More sequels coming up

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

MOVIE sequels remain popular with viewers because they give them another chance to see their well-loved characters in action again.

Sequels are also popular with producers because they're much easier to sell to movie audiences. Like brand-name products, they have already been sampled and liked, so it's a cinch to get people to see them again.

The problem with the popularity of sequels is its tendency to make filmmakers and producers feel overconfident, thus they no longer work hard on the follow-up movies they make. That's why quite a big percentage of sequels do much more poorly than their original movies.

Be that as it may, sequels are still churned out in large numbers. The latest crop includes:

"Rush Hour 2." **Jackie Chan** and **Chris Tucker** continue to play mismatched cops. This time, they travel the world to capture a bigtime gangster.

(The first "Rush Hour" film established Chan as the most popular Asian star working in Hollywood. It also served as a smashing debut vehicle for standup comic Chris Tucker, who's done a number of other movies since then.)

"Doctor Doolittle 2." **Eddie Murphy** as a doctor who can talk to animals is up for another adventure that prompts him and his furry friends to fight developers who want to tear up a forest.

"Jurassic Park 3." This time around, the characters played by **Sam Neil, William H. Macy** and **Tea Leoni** find themselves trapped on dinosaur island.

"Scary Movie 2." The makers of the first "Scary Movie" swore that they wouldn't do any sequels, but here they are, breaking their word with slap-happy impunity. Like the original movie, this sequel spoofs the horror film genre.

"American Pie 2" fully intends to gross out audiences once more with another cheerfully sloppy serving of leering adolescent humor with a heavy sexual content.

And "The Mummy Returns" has **Brendan Fraser** and **Rachel Weisz** fighting the evil Scorpion King and working hard to keep from getting thoroughly upstaged by the production's state-of-the-art special effects.

Culminating activity

ABS-CBN's voter education campaign, "Vote for Me," peaks on Tuesday, May 8 at 8:30 p.m. with the airing of its culminating activity, the "Boto Mo, Kinabukasan Mo" show.

Featuring top performers, ABS-CBN talents and Star Records artists, the musical special will feature docu-narrative inserts that will deepen viewers' appreciation of the importance of voting for deserving candidates come election day on May 14.

A musical journey that's both inspiring and satirical, "Boto Mo, Kinabukasan Ko" will be enlivened by guest performances by **Sharon Cuneta, Gary Granada, Vina Morales, Jamie Rivera, Cookie Chua, Cesar Montano, Randy Santiago, Jolina Magdangal, Carol Banawa, Piolo Pascual, Grace Nono, Jessa Zaragoza** and Aegis.

President **Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo** will speak at the end of the program.

'Shrek'

MORE background info on "Shrek," DreamWorks-PDI's latest animated feature: Originally, the film's lead ogre character was supposed to have been voiced by comedian **Chris Farley**, but he died in mid-production. When **Mike Myers** came onboard to replace him, "Shrek" became a different movie.

It was decided to give Shrek a Scottish brogue, but not as broad as Myers' Fat Bastard character in "Austin Powers."

This is the first time that Myers has been asked to provide the voice for a cartoon character, although he's shown his knack for doing different voices in his movies, and on "Saturday Night Live" on TV.

Myers finds animated feature-filmmaking fascinating. "It's a cool world that Shrek journeys through," he says. "And I love what the movie has to say!"

"Shrek" is the second collaboration between Dream-Works and Pacific Data Images (PDI) team that made "Antz" some years ago.

All about wild cats

THE SHOWS on May 19 on the National Geographic Channel revolve around wild cats of all kinds: "Lions of the Andes," "The Lioness Tale" and "Trail of the Cougar."

On May 28, the search is on for "Lost Ships." Go treasure-hunting with Mel Fisher in "Quest for Atosha," then join the expedition to the wreckage of the R.M.S. Titanic in "Secrets of the Titanic," and explore yet another famous wreck in "Sinking of the Lusitania."

Summer special

ISLANDS Souvenirs has been selected as the official summer wear of celebrity hosts in GMA 7's top-rating noontime show, "SOP."

The beach party special in Boracay will be aired live nationwide today. Hosts Ogie Alcasid and Janno Gibbs lead the pack that will wear the latest showcase of summer merchandise from Islands Souvenirs, with Asia's Songbird Regine Velasquez, MTV veejay KC Montero, Gabby Eigenmann and many others.

Child star wanted

ARE you dreaming of becoming a child star for new soap opera?

Here's a chance to make your dream come true.

Network Production is looking for potential talents for TV.

Applicants must have the following qualifications: mestiza, with acting ability, 8 to 9 years old for girls and boys, and 18 years old for ladies.

Interested parties should bring bio-data with whole and half-body recent picture from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily at 117-A S. Macaya St., Cleofas Compound, Barangay Pasong Tamo, Tandang Sora, QC.

For inquiries, call 454-0078 and look for production assistant Ghie Española.

Erap, reel and real

FORMER President Joseph Estrada's acting continues to haunt him even while he's in prison.

The May 1 mayhem that threatened the Arroyo administration—where lives were lost and properties destroyed—was like a movie script whose ending remains unknown.

But while it still plays in the collective consciousness of Filipinos, its "scriptwriter" and "director" remain invisible.

Hosts Randy David and Katrina Legarda look at the real people and real events in the life of Mr. Estrada, and draw similarities in his life as a movie star in "Off the Record," 11:30 tonight on ABS-CBN.

They also look into what the "state of rebellion" is all about and its implications on the May 14 elections.

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SAY IT ISN'T SO - P 13 11:35, 1:40, 3:45, 5:50, 7:55, 10:00	NARINIG MO BA ANG LATEST - P13 11:00, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50	THE MEXICAN - P 13 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

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Starring: Jean Reno & Vincent Cassel

Set in a small community in the Alps, the tortured body of an elite university librarian is found in the a mountain height only known to an alpinist. Another body is then found in the ice of another glacier. A local policeman and an expert commissary from Paris work the case. Based on a novel by Jean-Christophe Grangé.

Critically aplauded by different award giving bodies in France.

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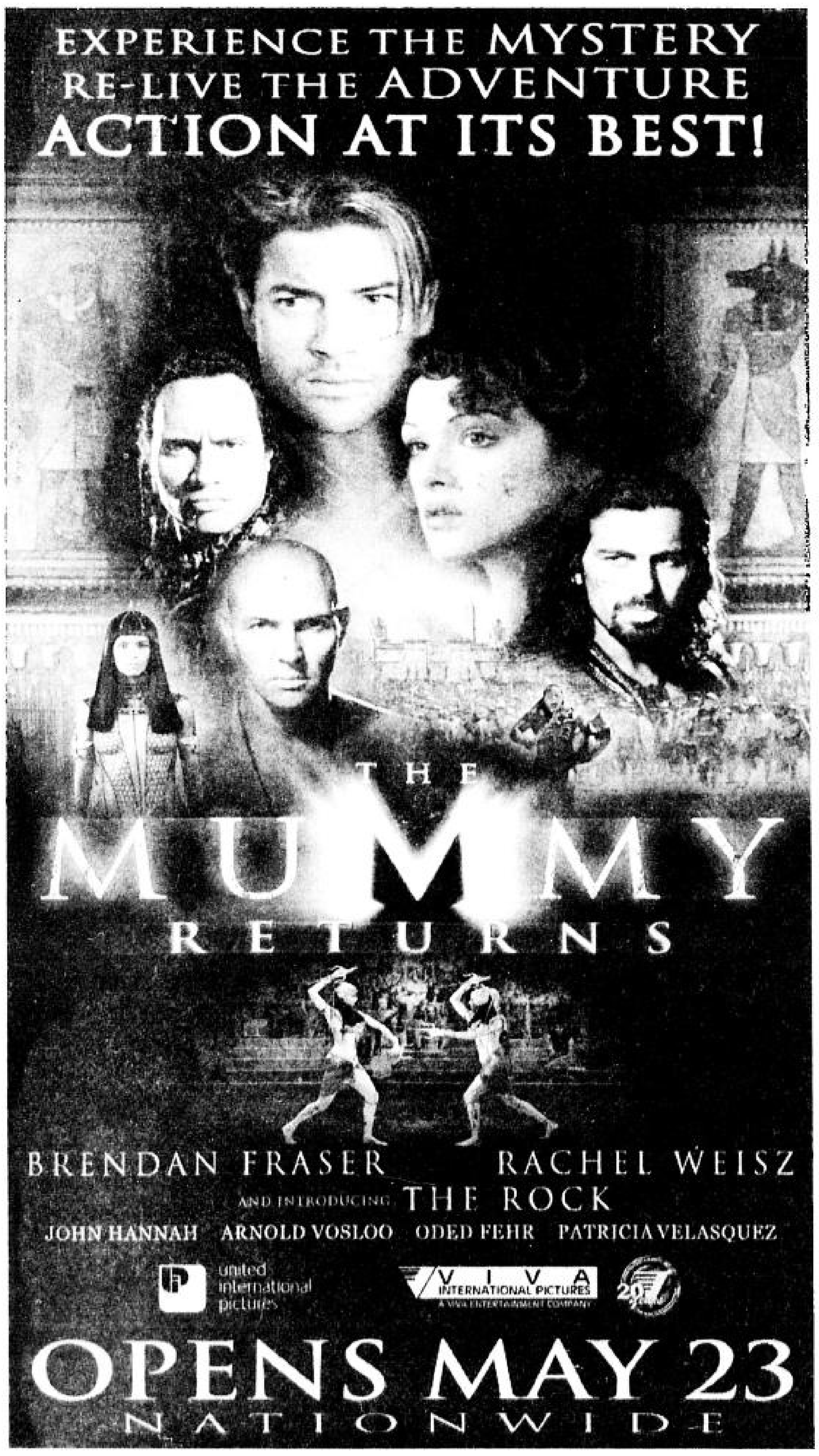

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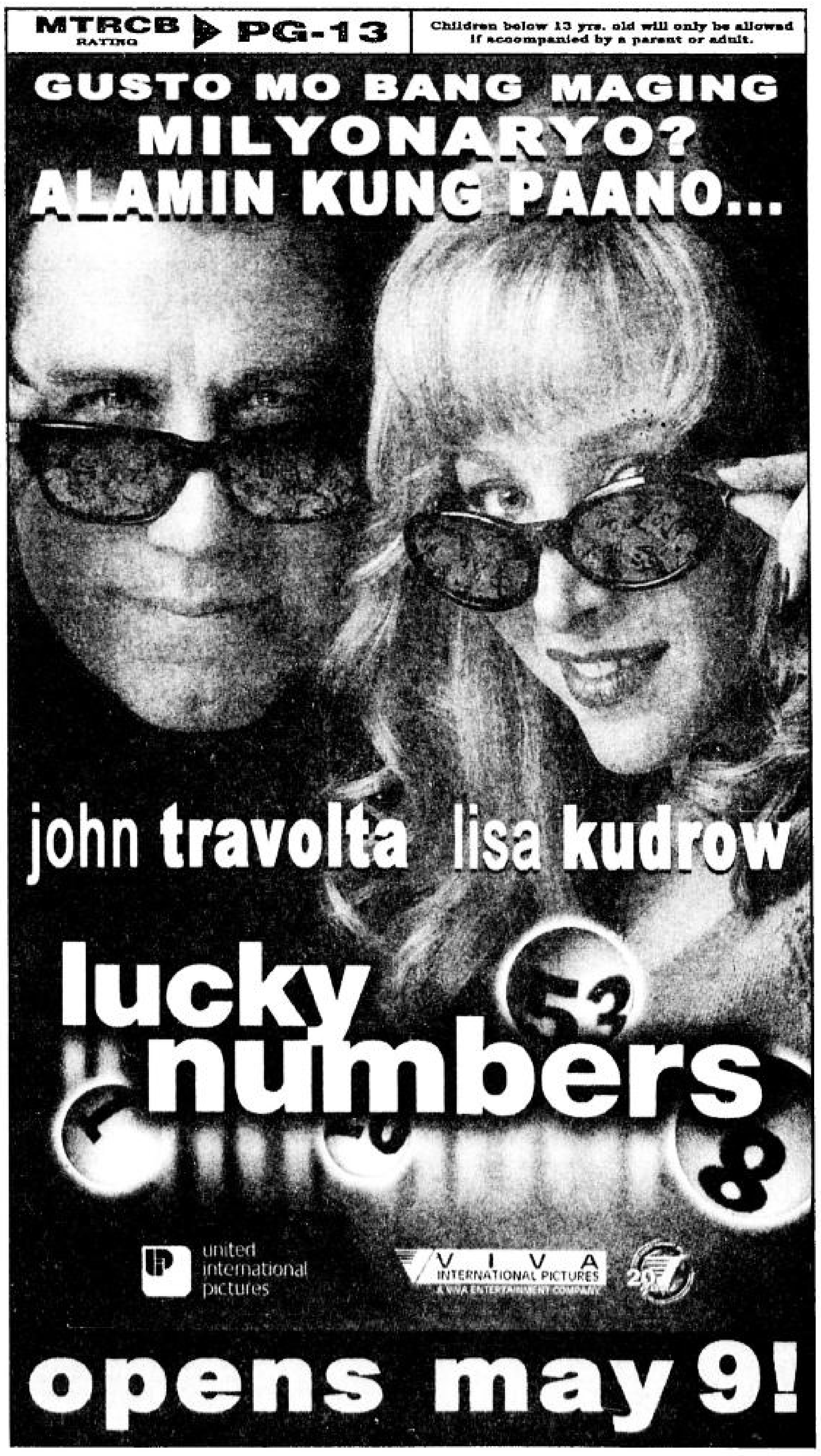

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After not getting 'Headlines,' Ces Drilon goes after ANC show

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

CES Oreña-Drilon has been vocal about her disappointment over ABS-CBN's not making her the anchor of the late-night news program "Headlines" after it was reformatted.

The job was given to the network's newest recruit, **Karen Davila**, who joined ABS-CBN last year.

"I always felt I was next in line, that's why I really felt bad," Ces allows. "Since 'The World Tonight,' I've been part of the family with **Angelo (Castro)** and **Loren (Legarda)**. I was bypassed when they made Karen do it."

She says that after it happened, she even thought of resigning from the network and working abroad.

"But I have four sons so it's not easy to leave the country just like that," she says.

She, however, insists she didn't take it against Karen.

"Choosing her was management prerogative," she maintains. "Whether I argue with it or not, that's beside the point. But I never displayed any feeling of antagonism toward Karen, even when the rest were strongly against her."

Instead of sulking, Ces chose to focus her attention on other things.

"I realized I was so fixated on doing the late-night news when I could do other things," she says. "I've been doing newscast for so long and I know there are other things which are challenging. There are other things to pursue. I've accepted my fate so I started looking for other options."

One option came when the ABS-CBN News Channel (ANC 21) was conceptualizing a nightly current affairs program to cap the day's programming. ANC executive **David Celdran** wanted a 30-minute live talk show that would tackle social issues, with interviews from newsmakers and experts.

David initially thought of having different hosts nightly. "But they said it would be hard to give the program its identity and probably harder to sell it to advertisers," Ces explains.

"When I heard about it, I approached David and told him I wanted to do the program nightly. I really asked for it."

Starting tomorrow, May 7, Ces will host "Pointblank," 11-11:30 p.m., Mondays to Fridays, on ANC. The daily program aims to give a more in-depth treatment of current news stories and takes advantage of ABS-CBN's advance broadcast technology. The show can go to remote sites and will allow guests to interact and debate with each other even from different parts of the country.

"I'm excited but at the same time a little apprehensive because it's something I've never tried," Ces says. "The art of trafficking the discussion is difficult, especially when you have two guests with opposing views.

"But then, I told myself, it's time to try this kind of format. It can bring out the extent of my knowledge and experience. Any show can succeed or fail depending on the host."

Ces brings to "Pointblank" 16 years of broadcast experience. As a young reporter, she covered the coup attempts during the Aquino administration. She did an exclusive report on the arrest of **Gringo Honasan** and the daring daylight assassination of Col. **Joe Pring**.

Ces later reported the business news for ABS-CBN, which prompted the network to give her the popular but now-defunct current affairs program, "Usapang Business."

Unlike her weekly program, "Pipol," now airing Tuesday nights on ABS-CBN, Ces is aware that "Pointblank" has a niche market since it will air on cable TV. "The audience is more discriminating, but there's no pressure to rate, because there's hardly any competition unlike free TV."

Now that she will do "Pointblank," Ces will give up her anchor chores on "Business Nightly," also on ANC. **Nancy Irlanda** will take over.

CES SAYS. "I really felt bad about it."

BEE GEES STAYING ALIVE

The real thing again

BY EMMIE G. VELARDE

REVIEW

MORE than 100 million records sold over four decades. You think the Bee Gees would take it easy now. But they've just dished out an other album called "This Is Where I Came In," as though to announce their what . . . fifth? . . . wind.

The carrier title is on MTV's 7th slot this week and climbing. Four other tracks are strong chart contenders.

As the group's nth comeback collection, "This is Where I Came In" is classic concert tour material, rendered in incredibly diverse and polished styles. The Brothers Gibb wrote, performed and produced all the songs over the past three years in their adopted home, the Middle Ear Studio in Florida. If there is one luxury they are allowing themselves, it is obviously that of not being in a hurry.

Music has always spelled life, love and leisure for Barry, Robin and Maurice. Their long-time manager Robert Stigwood foretells: "I can see them in wheelchairs, still in the studio, making records." That their music continues to be relevant in the new millennium says as much about the Gibb fiber as about their prodigy (the word "talent" falls short).

In the early 1960s, the teenaged Brothers Gibb, had merely wanted "to be part of that world"—song, celebrity, audience rush—inhabited by such seniors in the trade as the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, and The Who. Without prejudice to individual sounds, anyone can see that the Bee Gees have outlasted their own idols.

With "This Is Where I Came In," the trio bolsters the metamorphosis of the mighty rock of the '60s, into the mighty rock of the almost-60-year-olds.

Running out of classics

In 1996, the boy band Take That landed on No. 1 in the UK charts with a cover of "How Deep is Your Love." Later that same year, Boyzone duplicated this with a cover of "Words." Promo materials for "This Is Where I Came In" boldly proclaim: "Now that the current generation of pop stars seems to be running out of classic Brothers Gibb songs to cover, it's time for the real thing again."

All great bands have great histories. Forthcoming in June is a documentary on this extraordinary trio that has made parallel careers of breaking world records, and creating them with melodies. They didn't even spare Ripley's Believe It Or Not ("Most Successful Family Group in the World," The Millennium Edition).

The docu traces the "working-class" brothers' dream from gestation to realization, and then through peaks and valleys, and more peaks, and again some more.

Let us name only some of them: 1) listed among the top five most successful recording artists ever, alongside The Beatles, Paul McCartney, Elvis Presley, and Michael Jackson; 2) the first and only songwriters to have five songs in the US Top 10 at the same time; 3) the only artists ever to have written and produced six consecutive US no. 1 hits; 4) seven Grammies; 5) World Music Awards–Lifetime Achievement Award, 1997; 6) American Music Awards–International Achievement Award, 1997; 7) Outstanding Contribution to British Music, 1997.

Staying successful

Fame and fortune, the brothers agree, acquire a life of their own at a certain point, and more than once they were overcome by the trappings of success—specifically, self-destructive excesses, and pride.

Record producer and Beatles mentor Sir George Martin says of the Gibbs' roller-coaster ride: "To become successful is difficult as it is; to stay successful even more so." The Bee Gees' test, Barry declares openly now, was drugs and booze, plus a spate of bruises on the ego, mostly Robin's.

As every American pop music witness knows, the Bee Gees sound consists of two main melodies (one in Robin's distinctive vibrato, unduplicated to date, the other in Barry's equally distinctive falsetto), and free blending (by expert harmonist Maurice, Robin's fraternal twin).

Fortunately for the world, Barry also points out that their story is really just about three brothers.

Every memorable hit has come at a major turn in their story. "Spicks & Specks," made No. 1 in Australia, where the family had migrated to escape poverty, as they were sailing back to the UK, land of their birth. "New York Mining Disaster" was their UK debut single. For their US television debut on the Ed Sullivan show, they sang "To Love Somebody" and "Words." "How Can You Mend a Broken Heart" celebrated their reunion after the '69 split-up.

Pillar of music

With the "Saturday Night Fever" soundtrack the boys collected five Grammy Awards. "How Deep is Your Love," "If I Cant Have You," "More Than a Woman," "Staying Alive," and "Night Fever" together in an album!

Just as phenomenal is the success of "Massachusettes," "First of May," "Jive Talking," "Tragedy," "Nights on Broadway," and "Too Much Heaven." I recently just rediscovered "Words" and "To Love Somebody," a song written for soul man Otis-Redding, who died before he could record it.

Chart candidates

It is difficult to regard "This Is Where I Came In" as something apart from such an illustrious back

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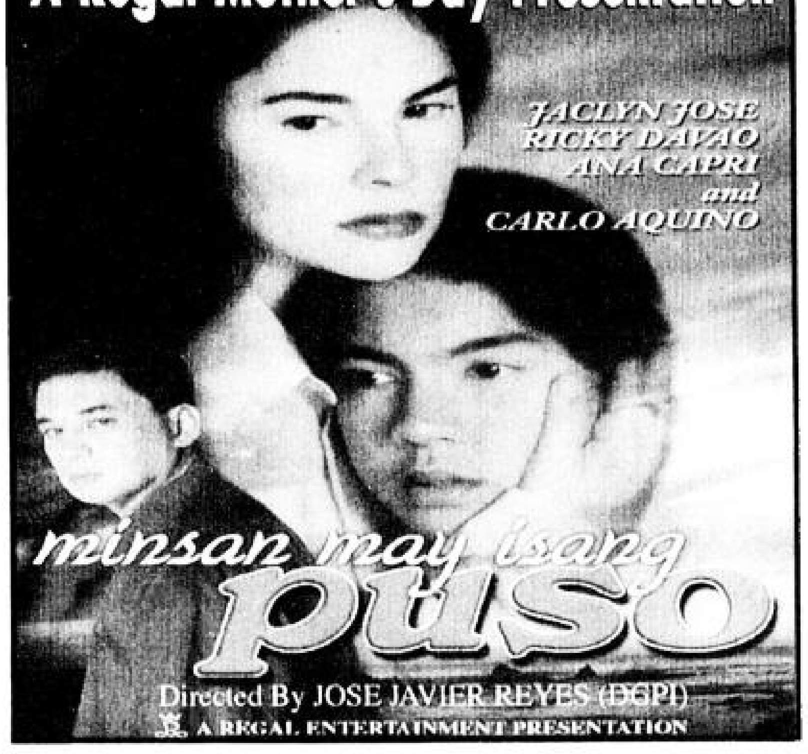

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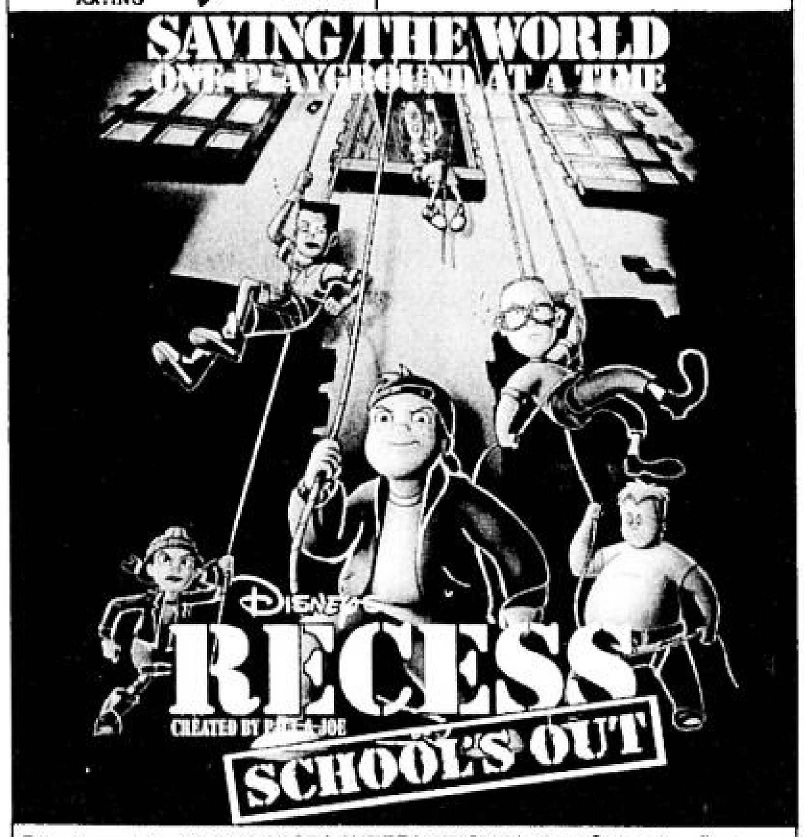

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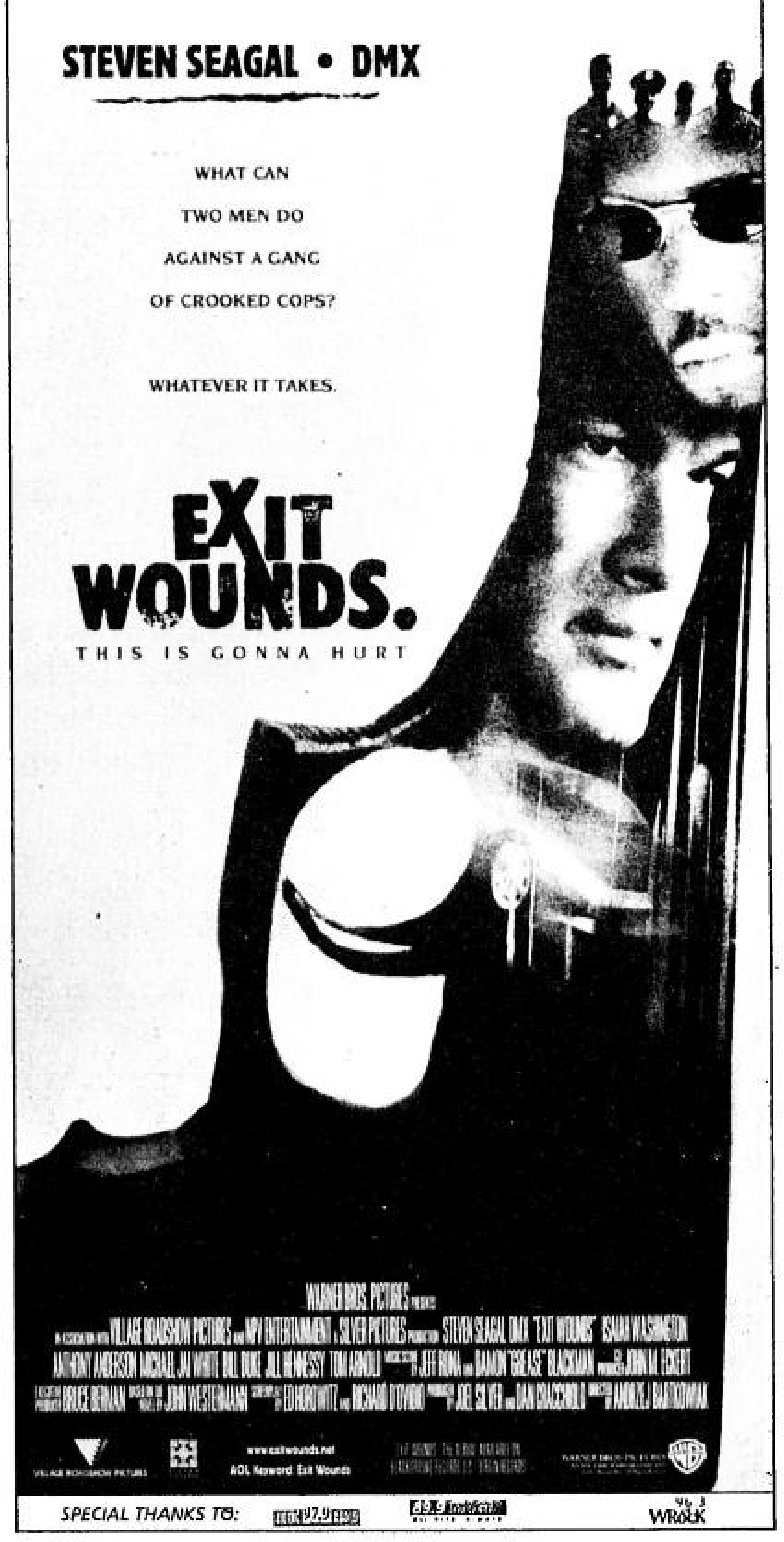

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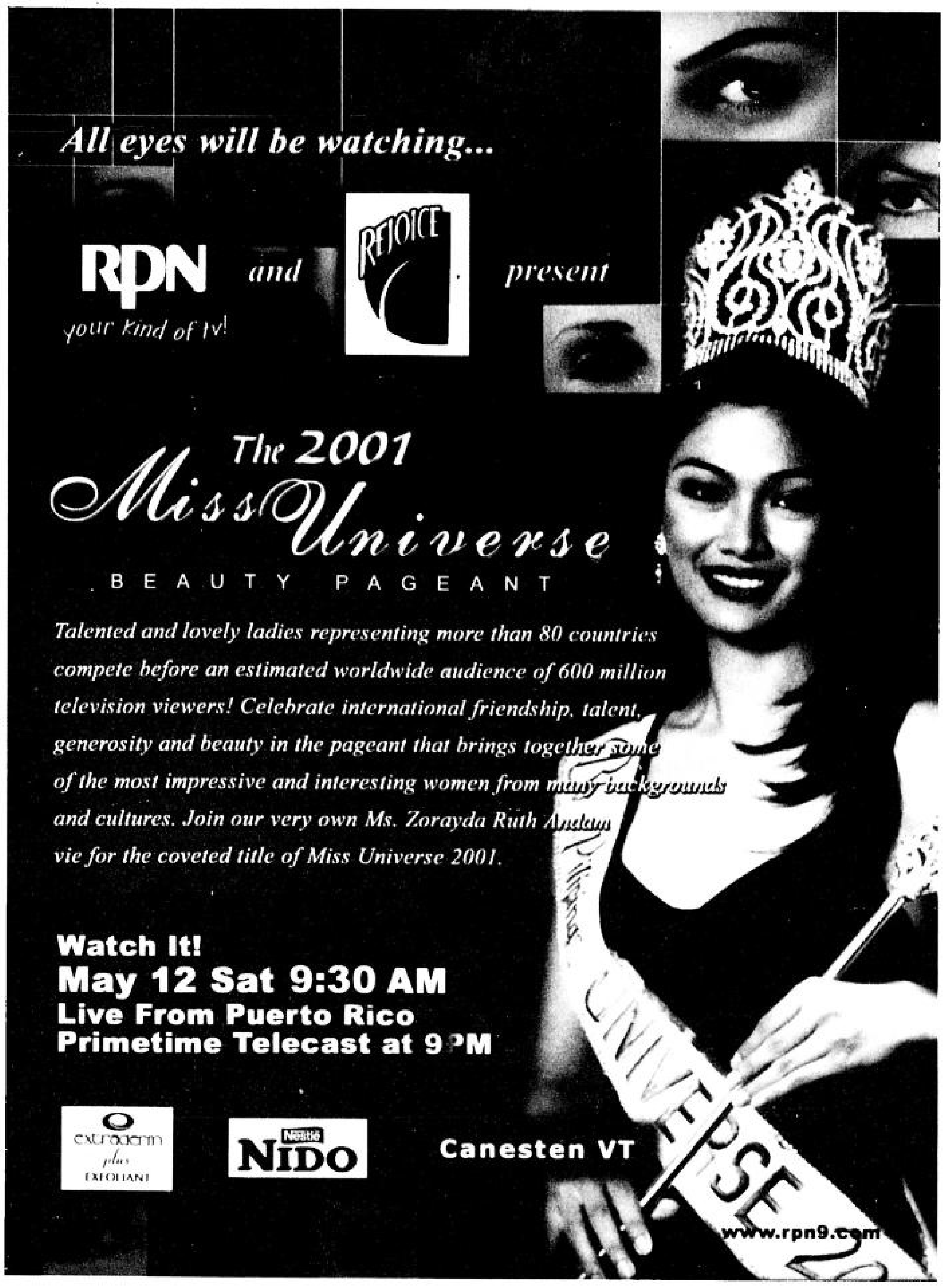
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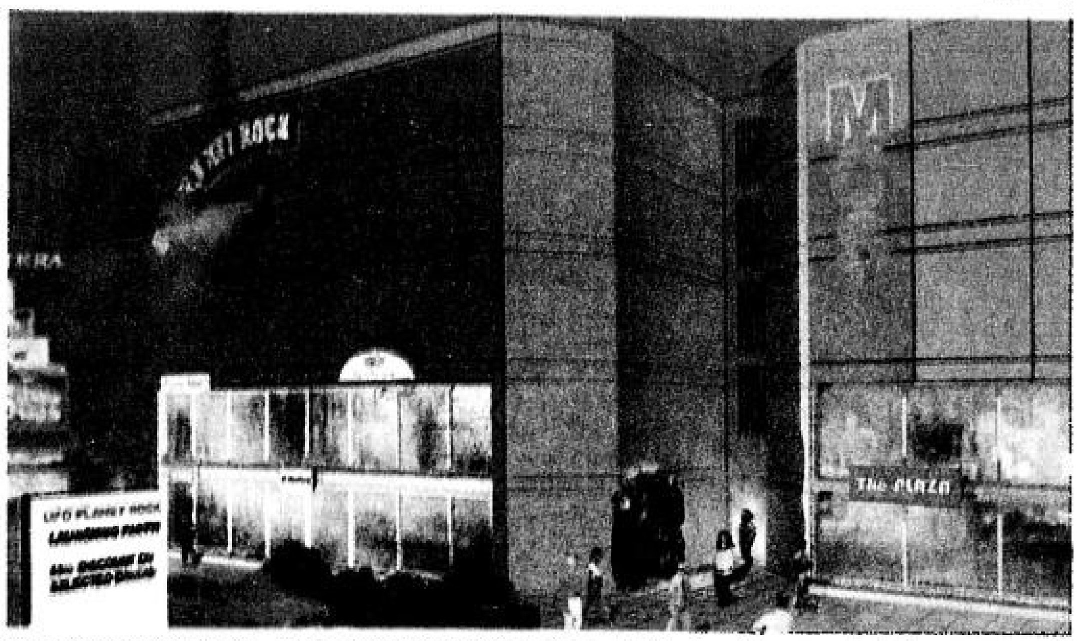

STATE OF THE ART. UFO's Planet Rock is patterned after Las Vegas entertainment venues.

UFO'S PLANET ROCK

New fun venue to heat up the entertainment scene

THE YEAR'S biggest and most elaborate party happens in Makati on May 9 as UFO's Planet Rock opens its doors.

UFO's Planet Rock, of Global Theatrical Entertainment Inc., is the newest, hottest entertainment venue for Metro Manila's party lovers.

A Silicon Valley designer created the venue, patterned after the Las Vegas-style approach to entertainment. The venue, with an SRO capacity of 1,200, may be one of the country's biggest entertainment spots.

The highest quality of sound and lighting equipment is one of the distinctive features of UFO's Planet Rock. Lighting ranges from a state-of-the-art, computer-operated intelligent lighting to animated laser lighting.

The place also features computerized video images—projected on movie-size screens, on stage, above the dance floor and over the bar—that interact with virtually any kind of pre-recorded and live music. Monitors that display the video images are also positioned outside the venue.

The interior design recalls the 1950s images of Flash Gordon and Buck Rogers. The dance floors are elevated, enhanced by a special lighting and smoke machine.

UFO's Planet Rock is situated at the Makati Cinema Square (MCS) at the end of the South Luzon Expressway off ramp. A separate entrance has been built outside the Makati Cinema Square.

The finest and most talented artists in the Philippines and abroad will consider UFO's Planet Rock a second home. Aside from live shows, UFO's Planet Rock is also perfect for special events such as fashion shows, launchings, parties, press conferences, corporate sponsorships—almost every kind of social gathering.

On its opening day on May 9, UFO's Planet Rock will have the country's top performers and bands. For the rest of May, Freestyle performs on Mondays, Big on Tuesdays, Wise Guys on Wednesdays, Freeverse on Thursdays, Passage on Fridays, Soulid on Saturdays, and Novia on Sundays.

UFO's Planet Rock is open nightly from 6 p.m. For more details, log on to www.ufosplanetrock.com.

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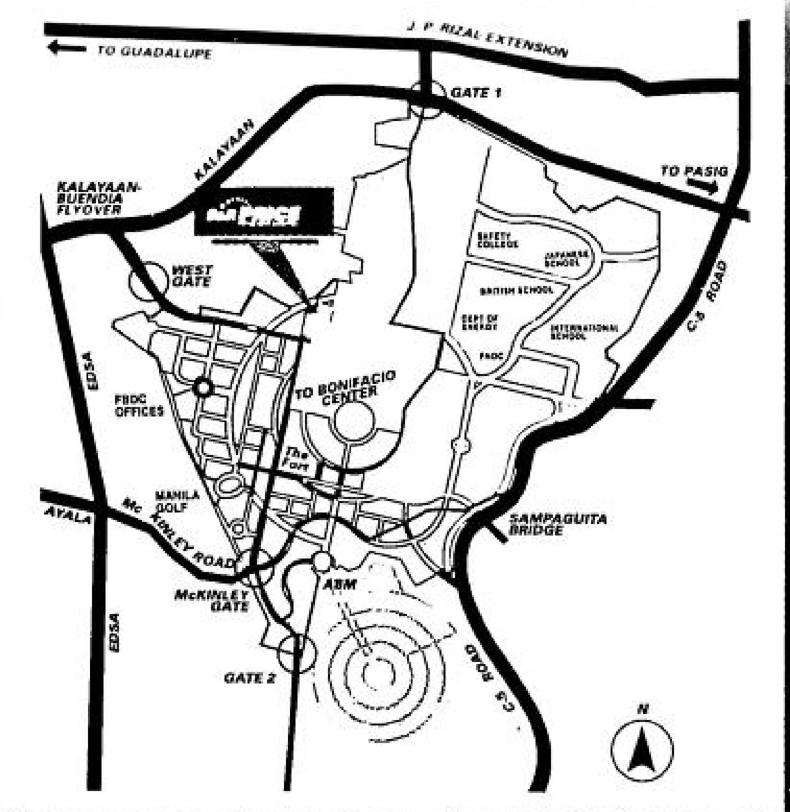
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Wines execs like to serve

Bordeaux

Many of the vineyards in Bordeaux have successfully married modern technology with traditional wine making practices. This has resulted in the region now being able to offer a range of wines that represent excellent quality and great value for money.

Gastronomy: Grilled meat and fish, also ideal with steaks and chops

Burgundy

Burgundy is located in the east of France. Its wines owe their individual character to the soil in which the grapes are grown. Louis Jadot is rated as one of the top winemakers in Burgundy and the wines from his firm are an accurate representation of what the region has to offer.

Gastronomy: Excellent with hot and cold red meats, game, casseroles and cheeses

Italy

Italy is the world's largest producer and consumer of wine. The reds of Italy are typically full-bodied and rich, with the whites ranging from sweet to the dry and floral.

Italian wine producers have demonstrated a strong desire for achieving quality while providing the drinker with a great value for money.

Spanish

Enate wines are of the highest quality. This wine company comes from the northeast region of the country. The approach that Enate takes to its winemaking is to try and capture the spirit and passion of the craft. These well-balanced wines have a crisp acidity and superbly balanced. They are versatile enough to compliment any menu.

Chile

Winemaking has been a tradition in Chile since the mid -1500s when it was introduced by missionaries. The majority of Chile's wine production is uninteresting, low quality bulk wine for the domestic market. However, there are also a few producers who make European style wines for export. These special wines have the character and quality of their European counterparts but at a fraction of the cost.

California

There are over 800 wineries in California releasing around 4,000 different wines every year. Californian wines have been gaining in reputation since 1976 when French judges selected certain Californian cabernets over the Bordeaux first growths in a blind tasting. This wine is excellent with steaks, pork chops and grilled dishes.

Champagnes

For over 180 years, the House of Billecart Salmon has produced some of the world's finest and most exclusive champagnes. Located at the Premier Cru village of Mareuil-sur-Ay in France, the House has developed and maintained a reputation for excellence through the use of traditional methods and the tightest possible quality control.

The use of a carefully controlled extended fermentation process ensures that when the moment calls for celebration, Billecart Salmon is worthy of any occasion.

Execs trade golf clubs for wine glasses

CHATEAU DE PARENCHERE. This wine from the Bordeaux region is made in the classic Medoc style, a combination of Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot and Malbec. Retail price is set at P590.00 a bottle.

LAMBRUSCO GRASPAROSSA. Produced by Umberto Cesari, this Italian wine is fresh, light, fruity, slightly sweet and semi-sparkling with a low alcohol content. It is perfect with pizza, pasta or with entrees for only P450.00 a bottle.

BEAUJOLAIS VILLAGE. Distinguished by the Gamay grape, this Burgundy wine is medium flavored, long and satisfying. There are hints of ripe fruit and is well balanced. This sells for P560.00 each.

BY TINA ARCEO-DUMLAO

EXECUTIVES, young and old, have forced themselves to learn golf because the golf course was where deals were made.

More and more executives, however, are trading their golf clubs for crystal glasses and a good bottle of wine as the venue for sealing deals has moved from the greens to the dining tables.

Alex Lichaytoo, president of Bacchus International Inc., the country's top importer of premium wines, says the shift in trends is evident in the 15 to 20-percent growth in wine sales over the past few years.

Lichaytoo says this indicates that more working men and women who have disposable income have turned to drinking wine to entertain guests and to discuss business.

"Before you had to learn golf if you wanted to do business, now people have switched to wine. The trend also before was to entertain over cognac or scotch, it has now moved to premium wine," Lichaytoo adds.

Lichaytoo attributes the growth in the demand for premium wine to the increasing health consciousness of Filipinos. Most doctors and health practitioners recommend a glass of red wine a day to keep the doctor away. There are also the added benefits of drinking wine such as a better taste and no hangovers.

"Wine is also something that executives can share with their family. There are wines for everybody from young to old. It also goes well with food and it is really something meant to be shared which makes it ideal for entertaining," Lichaytoo says.

Bacchus International counts the Zobels, Aboitizes, Madrigals and the CEOs of most banks among its main clients. Multinational companies have also opted to give away wine during Christmas and special occasions because of its universal appeal.

Lichaytoo stresses that there is wine for everybody. He says there is a mistaken notion that all wines - like the Chateau Margeaux and Petrus favored by former President Estrada - cost at least P30,000 a bottle. He says these are more the exceptions and not the rule.

Bacchus outlets at the Makati and Edsa Shangri-la offer wines that cost from P350 to over P100,000 a bottle. It has over 50,000 bottles of wine in its inventory. Bacchus tries to distinguish itself from the competition by investing in the proper care and storage of the premium wine collection.

EXECS / B10

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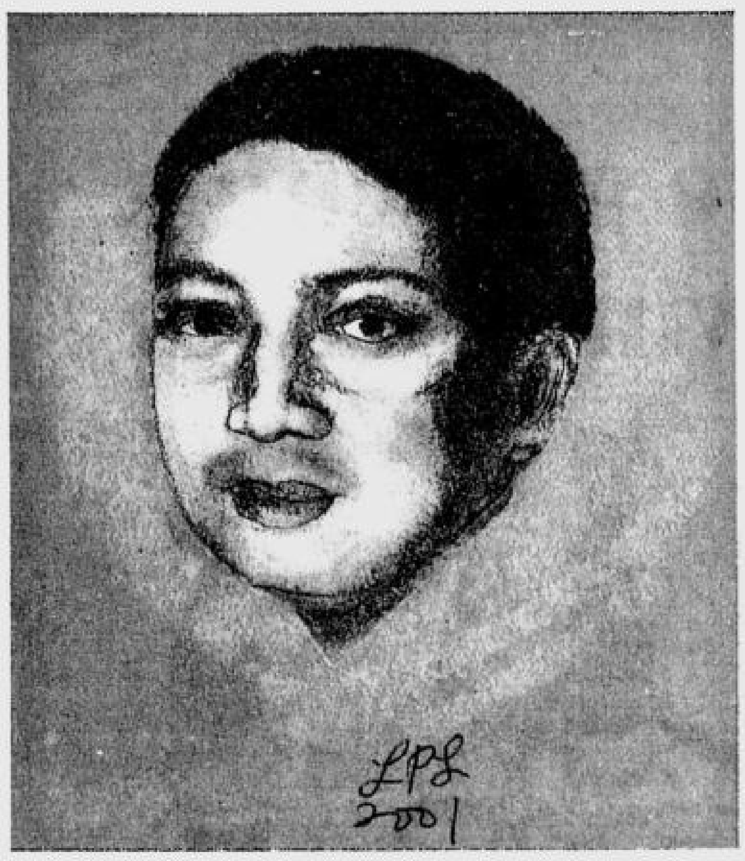
IN YOUR FACE

BY L. P. LEVISTE



THE tension-filled stockholders meeting of Equitable PCI Bank saw the departure of president Wilfrido Guevarra. Appointed to take his place was veteran banker Deogracias Vistan who used to be with the Land Bank of the Philippines and Solid Banking Corp.
Equitable chair Antonio Go said he recommended Vistan because of his qualifications. He was confident that they would be able to build "the best bank in the Philippines."

Firm ploughs in P920M for playground of the rich

THE GENERAL belief is the rich are crisis proof.

Filinvest Alabang Inc. is banking on this philosophy as it ploughs in some P920 million in Palms Country Club at Filinvest Corporate City in Alabang, Muntinlupa. The land costs P420 million while development and construction will read P500 million.

Its developers call it a "wholistic playground" and its target market are residents south of Metro Manila.

So far, FAI has sold over 350 shares during its initial offering in November last year. A total of 2,300 proprietary shares will be floated, broken into 1,900 corporate A with one nominee, 250 corporate B with two nominees, and 150 corporate C with three nominees. Membership is strictly by invitation and referral.

The members of the Club Advisory Board headed by Vicente Ayllon as chair inspected the project site recently. Other members of the Club Advisory Board are prestigious and respected business and southern community personalities. Among them is Dr. Jose Sandejas, chair and president of Professional Managers Inc., as vice chair.

More than just a membership club, The Palms Country Club is committed to promoting well-being, relaxation and activities that foster wholesome relationships among family members and the community.

International Leisure Consultants, represented by Guy Guillemard, has assured developer Filinvest Alabang of cutting edge concepts and standards of execution in operating The Palms Country Club.

Primarily catering to families residing south of Metro Manila, The Palms Country Club has given full dedication and attention to the design mix of utilities and amenities and standards of operations.

The team contracted for its conceptual and project development specialists in world-class county clubs and resorts.

Wimberly Allison Tong & Goo, the architectural consultant, is considered among the world's leading architects in resorts and hotels whose projects include The Grand Hyatt in Bali, The Four Seasons Resort of Hawaii and The Palace Tower at Caesar's Palace.

Hong Kong's Denton Corker Marshall Group and Arlen de Guzman Design Associates are working on the club's interior design.

US-based Peridian International Inc., foremost in landscape architecture, has been tapped to do the landscape design.

Work is proceeding at full pace and The Palms Country Club is already rising fast and on schedule for its May 2002 completion date.

Mad cow scare ups . . .

(From page B10)

it does these days, the fish swim deeper and the fisherman catches less," says Hebrado. "The price of fish then goes up."

If he gets lucky and catches more, the fisherman can try selling to Gumaca, the nearest point from Alabat Island, but he would need at least P116 in fare money.

"So unless he has five styrofoam boxes of fish to sell outside the island, the small fisherman won't venture outside because he's bound to lose money," Hebrado explains. Only the big fishing concessionaires can afford to sell to mainland markets and thus gain a lot from the mad cow scare, he adds.

Left out of such a windfall, the people of Quezon, Alabat Island, have learned to look to other ways to increase their catch and improve their income.

Fishing, they know, is a highly capricious living that depends on such factors as a full moon (bad for fishing as it disperses the fish and makes it harder to get a good catch), the weather and season (*habagat* or the monsoon winds make the sea inhospitable; *amihan* during the summer months mean more fish); even the methods used: cyanide, dynamite blasting and the use of fine mesh nets mean a better catch but they are also illegal because they destroy corals and marine life on the ocean floor.

In Alabat Island, a bent dagger-shaped land wedged by Lamon Bay and the Pacific Ocean, fisherfolk turn to planting palay, coconuts and vegetables as well as processing copra during the *habagat* season.

Recently, however, they started a project meant to make the seas friendlier and their catch heftier. By setting aside 30 hectares out of an 800-hectare fishing ground as sanctuary, the folks of the island hope to restock the seas depleted by overfishing and destructive fishing methods.

"Our fish catch has been declining at 4 percent a year," notes *Ka* Oscar Santos, a former Quezon congressman who managed to close down Lamon Bay to commercial fishing during his term.

He adds: "Our population growth rate of 2.3 percent a year is double our annual fish production growth rate of 1.26 percent. The needs of this exploding population have resulted in a 95-percent loss of our coral reefs and 4,000 hectares of mangroves cut every year, mainly for kindling."

Overfishing has in fact threatened the country's ranking as 12th among 80 fish-producing countries, and the fourth biggest seaweed producer, adds *Ka* Oca.

"Fisheries contributed P67 billion to our GDP in 1997, but now we're importing more than 200,000 tons of fish a year," he notes. "It's time to give our seas some rest to heal itself."

The fish sanctuary is doing just that and already, divers from the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, which supports the project, have reported that marine life has been thriving in the sanctuary and that more varieties of fish, including the blue marlin, abound in the area.

An unexpected bounty is the presence of sea cucumbers, which suddenly appeared in the fish reserve ready for harvesting. "Dried sea cucumbers cost as much as P1,200 a kilo because they're an important ingredient in soups favored by the Chinese, the Japanese and the Koreans," says Hebrado.

So profitable is this marine resource that Villaflor, who used to teach fisheries at the Southern Luzon Polytechnic Colleges, is studying ways to culture sea cucumbers. "From what we've heard, sea cucumbers have never been cultured before, so we're observing the creatures for now," says Villaflor.

So far, he adds, they've noted that the sea cucumber seems to have the uncanny ability to shrink or stretch itself such that it can pass through the inch-wide mesh net that the fisherfolk use in their fish cage. "It also seems to be able to take in air and literally float out of the fish cage," an astounded Villaflor recounts. "*Parang* Houdini, the way these sea creatures can escape from ordinary fish cages."

It is a mystery that the fisherfolk of Quezon, Alabat Island, are keen on solving at the moment. They know that more than the providential demand for fish brought about by mad cow scare and the foot and mouth disease, sea cucumbers offer a more stable and steady livelihood prospect.

Move over, customer satisfaction; enter emotional 'touchpoints'

"Emotion Marketing"
Scott Robinette and Claire Brand
McGraw-Hill, 2001

BY DANTE M. VELASCO

YOU stride into a bookstore looking for a greeting card. You don't look for just any card—you have a Hallmark or a Unicef card in mind. You want to discuss business over a cup of coffee, you instinctively tell your associate to meet you at Café Figaro or Starbucks, ruling out all other options.

Your friend asks you to switch to another T-shirt brand, cheaper but of the same quality, but you resist any and all enticements and say: "No, I will stick to Polo or Lacoste."

Are you a case of a satisfied customer, intelligent buyer or brand loyalist? Customer satisfaction does not explain insistence on a product any time and any place. Intelligent buying cannot comprehend near blind attachment to a brand, glossing over such rational product attributes as price and quality.

And brand loyalty is so one-sidedly focused on the brand that it fails to see the strong emotional relationship between seller and buyer—where even the lines between them vanish.

There must be a way to interpret this bond between product and customer beyond the confining concepts and jargon of marketing—where points of view have to shift: Are we product or customer-oriented?

The book, "Emotion Marketing," provides the answer! A company or product can actually establish an "emotional connection" with customers—which the book calls "touchpoints."

We have actually gone a long long way in our search for the best strategy to build loyalty among our customers. First, we were content with achieving customer satisfaction. Then, we improved on it and we said, we should "exceed customer satisfaction."

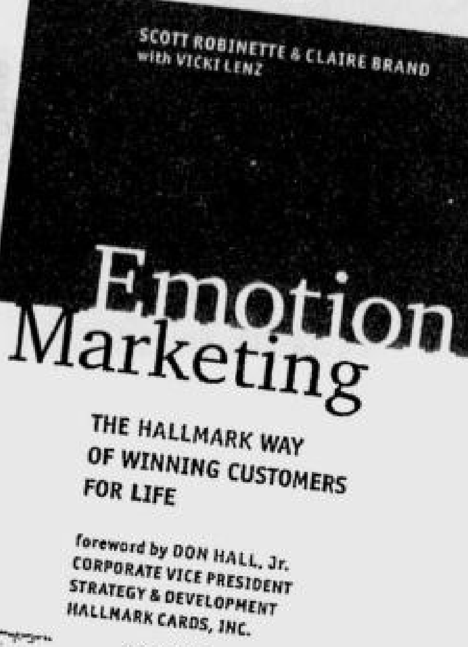
Henceforth came the concept of the firm being "customer-driven" where even complaints are not only welcome but are sought as a matter of policy. Then, the brand gurus insisted that it is all about "brands."

From "brand awareness," the marketing objective deepened to "brand loyalty." And, from that level, it further acquired depth and breadth in "brand equity"—a concept where the brand has pre-eminence over all other brands and prior claim to the customer's mindset.

And here comes Emotion Marketing. This is a phrase that actually does not capture the concept of "connecting emotionally" with one's customers, where the line between company and customer blurs and where a business relationship rises to the level of a long-term friendship, for lack of any better term—to describe the "caring" by one and "loyalty" by the other.

Hallmark, the main focus of this book—but occasionally shared by Harley Davidson, Carlton Hotel, Hertz Rent-a-Car—conducted a study how four variables can help predict customer loyalty.

The four variables are: Caring, Trust, Length of Patronage and Overall Satisfaction. The study's findings: Caring is twice as important as any of the other three variables.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Emotion Marketing
THE HALLMARK WAY OF WINNING CUSTOMERS FOR LIFE
foreword by DON HALL, Jr.
CORPORATE VICE PRESIDENT
STRATEGY & DEVELOPMENT
HALLMARK CARDS, INC.

These words do not seem to describe a business partnership, but it does for Hallmark: "The more a company shows they care, the more loyal customers appear to be. Just as in friendships, consistent demonstrations of caring build trust, encourage comfort, and eliminate the need for defenses, allowing a relationship to take place."

"Genuine caring produces the deep, fertile ground that allows a relationship to put down roots," the authors point out, seemingly speaking of something deeper than business. And then, back to business, they theorize: "Caring is that bridge between satisfaction and loyalty."

The authors explain the firm's Emotion Marketing with "The Hallmark Value Star"—which is made up of five elements: the rational side—Product (quality) and Money (price); and the emotional side—Equity (trust), Experience (relationship) and Energy (convenience).

All five elements delve deeper into how Hallmark builds loyalty and, chances are, our companies in the Philippines have been using such elements in varying degrees.

One interesting discussion is the element of Energy in Hallmark's Value Star which is summed up thus: "Conserving people's energy also sends the message that a company values its customers. Wasting their time, on the other hand, says a company does not care."

The book illustrates this point on how Hertz's Gold Program has made it easy on car renters to pick up and return their cars—not only saving their time but, as a result of processing speed, leave the customers more time for what they love to do: hit the road. This should be instructive to businesses here that seem to be wasting people's time waiting in long queues to buy merchandise, to retrieve equipment for repair, or even to get an update on your credit card balance! So much emotional energy is spent when tempers rise, you know.

This book introduces a concept that has worked for Hallmark whose Gold Crown Card Program is the largest loyalty program the world over: 12 million active members! You may adopt other slogans, but if you are somewhere near believing—"When you care enough to send the very best"—you will be another success story. Hallmark that. (dantemv@i-next.net)

WORKERS TO MANAGERS

Upland women strive to be entrepreneurs

BY MAURICE MALANES
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAKUN, Benguet—Librada Dongga-as always wanted to be in business. But lacking capital, the 38-year-old mother left her three children and husband in 1997 to work as a maid in Taiwan.

She had big hopes that after her two-year contract, she would have saved enough from which to start a small business in her hometown of Bakun.

But two years after coming home in 1999, Dongga-as' savings were used up for her children's school tuition and for the family's food and other daily needs.

She ventured into collecting and selling gravel and sand, but the business, she says, went nowhere.

"I really didn't know why," she said, lamenting why despite her efforts, the business hardly gave her family a break.

Julie Lagdao, Dongga-as' town mate, almost had the same story. Finding no job after obtaining a degree in agricultural extension in 1994, Lagdao ended up as a maid in Hong Kong.

The 28-year-old mother of two came back in 1996, and from "a little savings," she and her husband tried their hand in commercial farming in their home village of Dalipey, one of two commercial farming barangays in Bakun town.

"We had to get a loan from a 'supplier' because my savings provided only 20 percent of the total needed capital," she said.

Benguet farmers define a 'supplier' as a financier who provides farm inputs such as fertilizers and pesticides on credit.

But after several harvests, the Lagdao couple failed to get a decent return on their investments. They became worried that they would not be able pay off their loan.

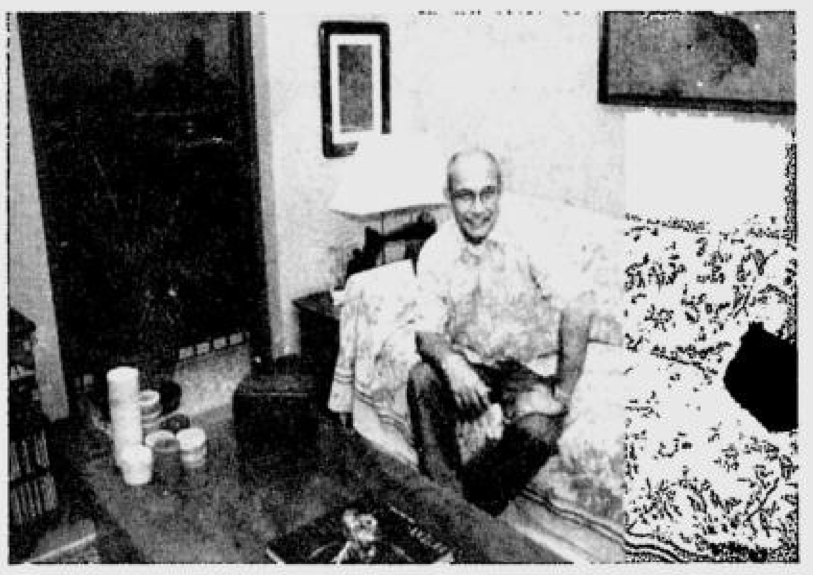
Hope

Fortunately, Lagdao and Dongga-as did not lose hope.

After the community-based Bakun Indigenous Tribes Organization (Bito) announced that it would be holding a five-day training workshop on "SMYOB," the two women eagerly enlisted themselves to take part in the workshop. "SMYOB" stands for "start and manage your own business."

Bito was officially accredited to lead in managing the ancestral domain of the Kankanaey and Bago folk in Bakun who were awarded a Certificate of Ancestral Domain Claim in March 1998.

UPLAND/ p.B3



ENRIQUE Moras of Communidades Developers Inc. brought the concept here from Spain.

A VIEW of one of the units at Parque España

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

Spanish housing formula comes to RP

BY ELENA R. TORRIJOS

THE COUNTRY'S real estate slump caused by the 1997 Asian financial crisis left a lot of real estate buyers traumatized.

Many Filipinos who spent hard-earned cash to acquire condominium units at pre-sell prices found to their dismay that project developers had no funds to finish construction or refund their payments.

There is one way future property hunters can be spared such grief, Communidades Developers Inc. president Enrique Moras says.

The concept is an adaptation of the Spanish housing model known as the Regimen de Comunidad de Proprietarios or the Private Ownership Community. Under the scheme, there are no "buyers" but investors-owners whose funds are kept in a bank under their names.

"Communidades is a novel and innovative at-cost approach that gives the investor one of the safest, easiest, most secure and affordable opportunities to own and invest in real estate," Moras says.

CDI's role is as project proponent/organizer that pools a sufficient number of investors who will collectively own and develop the project through a bank trust.

Parque Espana, a residential condominium unit in Filinvest Corporate City Complex in Alabang, is the first to be put up under the concept. A second project, Parque Bonifacio, a P1.174 billion 30-floor 261-unit residential condominium in Fort Bonifacio is now in the works.

As soon as 80 percent of expected investors is in place, construction of the project — featuring studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units — will commence and will be completed in 30 months. The units cost P60,000 per sq. m. The size ranges from 41.66 sq. m. to 109.6 sq. m.

PARQUE España in Fort Bonifacio is the first to be put up using the Communidades system.

In line with the communidades concept, investors of the project will initially contribute at least 30 percent of the P1.174-billion project. Each investor's contribution will depend on the cost of the condo they want to own.

All the money will be deposited in a trust account with a reputable commercial bank (in this case International Exchange Bank) where it will remain until the project is completed. As soon as the funds are released, it will be used to pay off the landowner and the land will be placed under the name of the trust for the investors.

In the meantime, the bank through a mortgage loan on the land/project will shoulder the rest of the funds required to complete the project. Investors can pay interest - no principal - on the mortgage loan based on the percentage of completion.

The investors also have the option to avail of a loan from the trustee bank to acquire their condominium units.

Moras says the relationship with a trustee bank guarantees the completion of the project unlike other projects that had to be halted because of lack of financing.

CDI also ensures that the contractors tapped to do projects have a triple A government issued general contractors license, thus, will not cut.

CDI proved its mettle when it returned P40 million to investors because the construction cost of Parque Espana, the Filinvest project, was lower than projected.

CDI likes to do more projects but wants to concentrate on one or two at a time, Moras says. The group, however, is willing to franchise out the concept to other groups, one of which is Property Partnerships International Inc. by Luis "Spanky" Monserat.

"We want to be able to offer quality value homes made of excellent materials in urban locations," Moras says.

He says he brought the communidades concept here from Spain, where he stayed for so[illegible] years, because he knows the struggle of b[illegible] a home.

"I really wanted to do it for people wh[illegible] to get units," h[illegible] says.

Upland women strive to be entrepreneurs

(From page B2)

Creating sustainable livelihoods and community-based businesses, which do not harm or threaten Bakun's ancestral domain, was among the mandates of Bito.

With funding support from the International Labor Organization-Inter-Regional Program to Support Self-Reliance of Indigenous and Tribal Communities through Cooperatives and Self-Help Organizations (ILO-Indisco), Bito gathered 22 women and men from the various villages of Bakun and went to a training center in La Trinidad, Benguet.

Both Lagdao and Dongga-as were upbeat and enthusiastic about the future after attending the entrepreneurship training facilitated by the private Center for Multi-linkaging and Enterprise Development Inc. (Cemed).

Learning about practical management skills such as business planning, costing, marketing and recording cash flow, Dongga-as said: "I had changed my mind. I don't have to go abroad again."

Dongga-as decided to augment her gravel and sand business by manufacturing iced buko (an iced candy with coconut, sugar and milk).

After she put her plan into action, she was pleasantly surprised that the iced buko delicacy sold like hotcakes among school children and adults alike in Ampusongan village, where the Dongga-as family lives.

Those selling iced buko in Ampusongan used to get their products from Abatan, a village in Buguias town some 30 kilometers away.

"I thought I had the advantage since I made my iced buko right in Ampusongan," she said.

She also cited the "better quality" of her product because of the abundant clean mountain springs in her village. The better quality, she said, was her "competitive advantage."

Something was also brewing in the mind of Lagdao, who used to think only of the seasonal cycle of crops in her family farm.

Noting how her village mates have to go all the way to La Trinidad or Baguio City, some 80 kilometers south of Bakun, to buy their farm inputs, Lagdao decided to put up a farm supply store in Dalipey village.

Lagdao's new business idea cropped up after Roman Adri of Cemed challenged the workshop participants to discover their potential competencies or skills and the needs of their communities from which a business enterprise can rise.

Business ideas

The business ideas of Lagdao and Dongga-as were just among 20 other individual business ideas that the workshop training generated.

If these 22 business ideas prosper, Adri said he would feel satisfied because he would have helped create 22 jobs.

Describing business as "basically a game," Adri said entrepreneurship involved not only industry and persistence but continuous innovation and creativity as well.

"Entrepreneurship is creating something from practically nothing," he said.

And true enough, the 22 Bakun farm folk, a third of them women, explored new enterprises they can engage in, aside from the usual sowing, planting, harvesting and selling their products to middlemen.

With the training, both Dongga-as and Lagdao said they were also hopeful about properly managing the RLF or "revolving loan fund" being extended by Bito.

Bito lends as much as P25,000 for backyard enterprises such as livestock raising and poultry.

Bakun Vice Mayor Tirso Agnawa, who also attended the entrepreneurship workshop, was equally optimistic.

"My town mates will definitely appreciate the importance of a business plan and other business basics such as costing, budgeting and target-setting," he said, as he challenged his town mates to discover untapped potential enterprises.

He cited for example the absence of a bakery in Bakun. The people there buy their bread from Baguio City or La Trinidad.

The training, according to Bito project manager Amos Beta-a, also debunked the misconception of many Bakun folk that farming is not a business.

"Farming is also a business enterprise so we need practical business management skills to determine if we are gaining or losing," he said.

The training, Beta-a said, would definitely help the Bito establish a business center right in the heart of the upland town of almost 14,000 Kankanaey and Bago folk.

ILO-Indisco Philippine national coordinator Domingo Nayahangan encouraged the participants to further sharpen any acquired skills and insights not only by practicing what they learned but by also "echoing" these to others.

"In so doing, you help build more entrepreneurs and create livelihood," he said.

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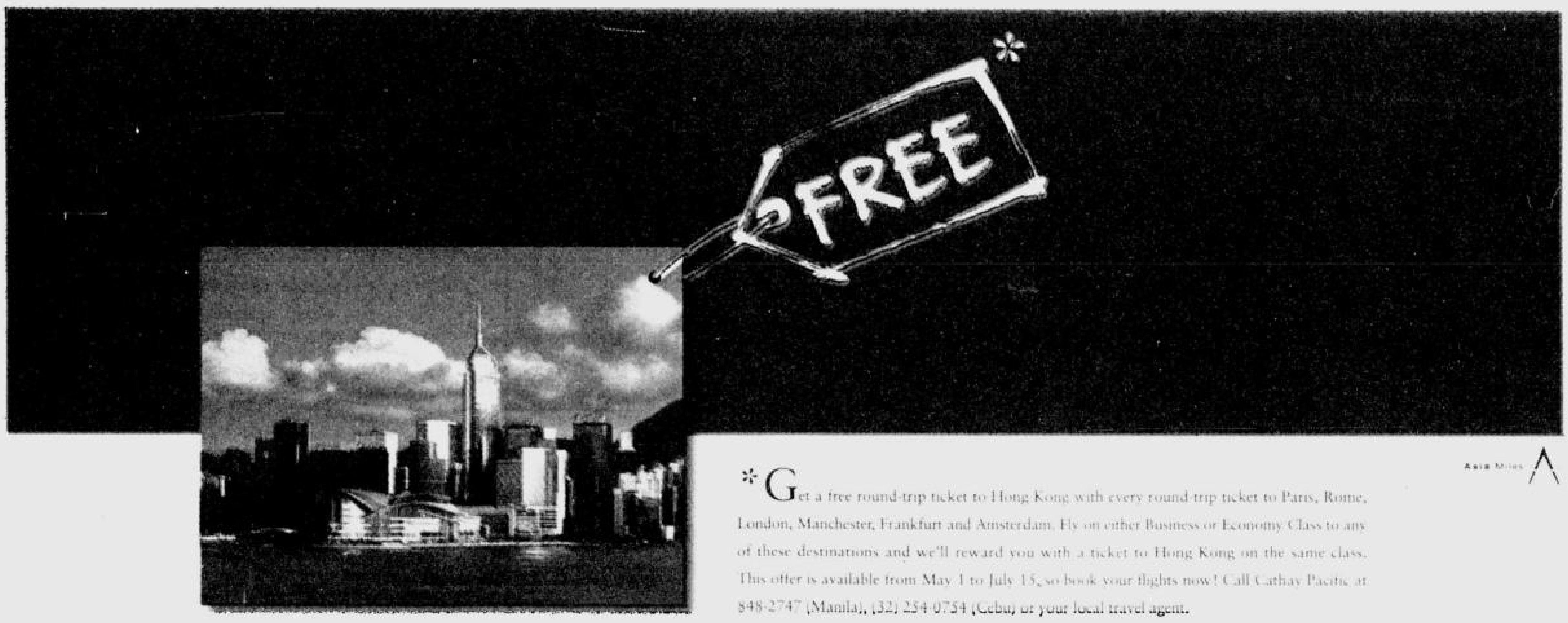

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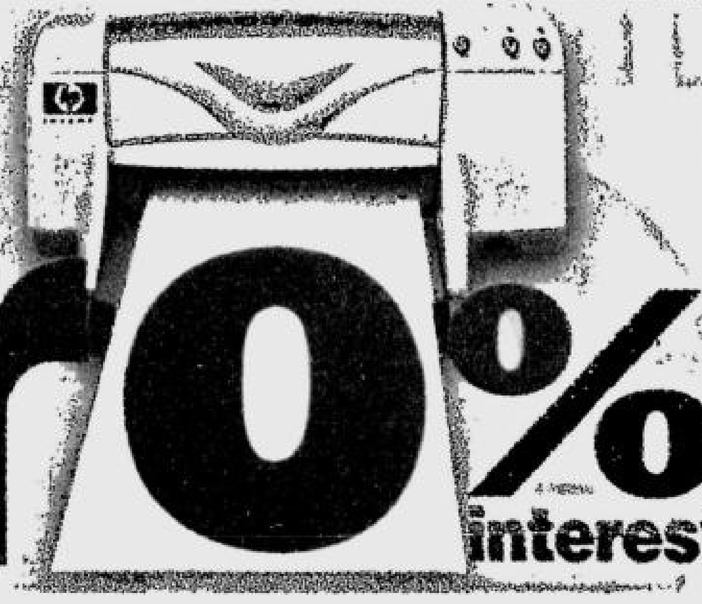

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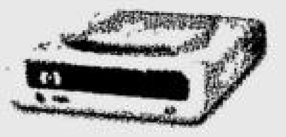

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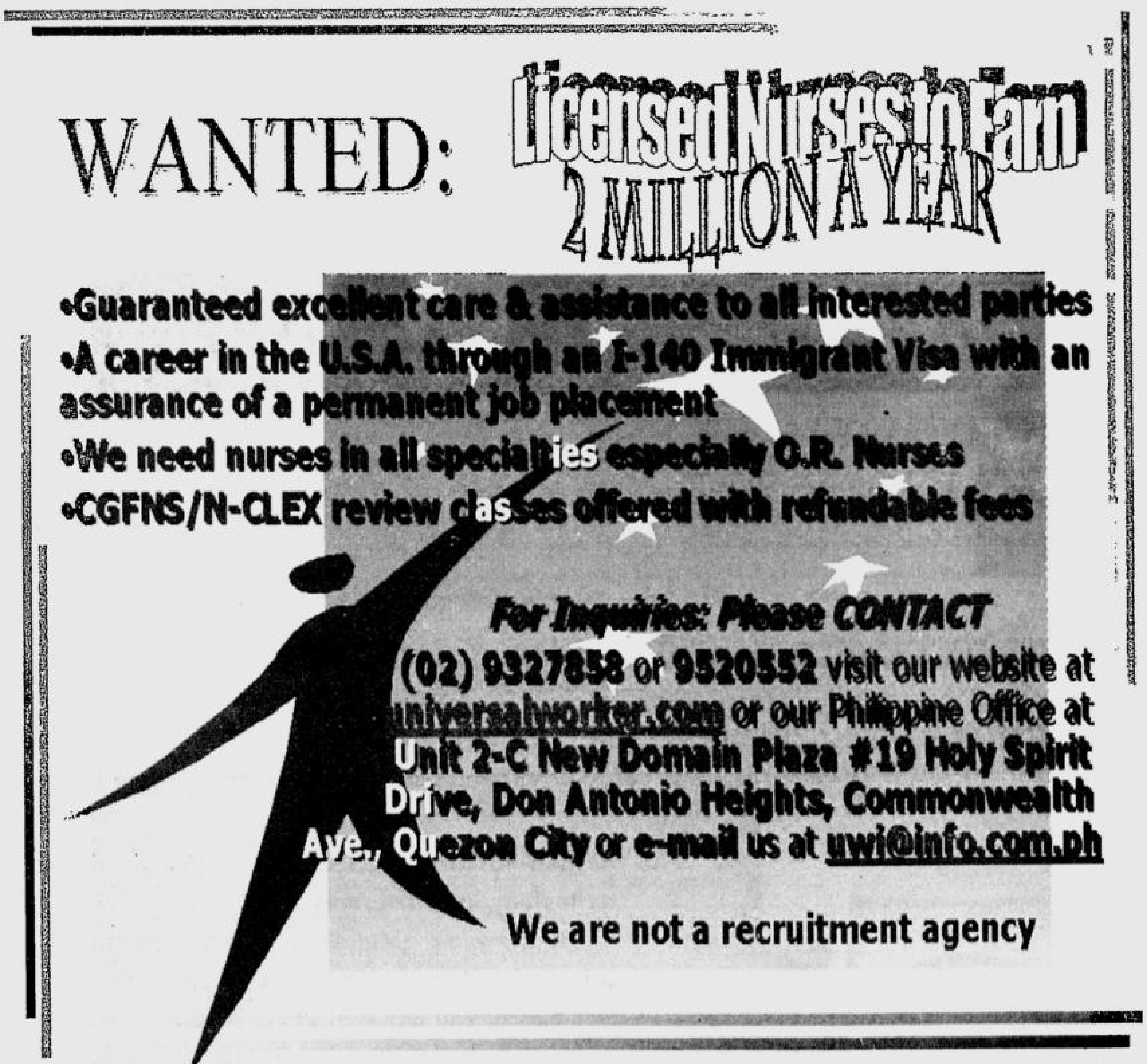

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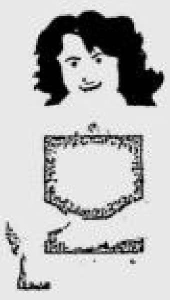

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May 15 - 8am to 7pm, Bacolod City, Bacolod, Bacolod Convention Plaza, Magsaysay Ave.
May 16 - 9am to 7pm, Cebu City, Cebu, Marriott Hotel, Cardinal Rosales Ave., Cebu Business Park
May 17 - 8am to 1pm, Cebu City, Cebu. Marriott Hotel, Cardinal Rosales Ave., Cebu Business Park
May 18 - 9am to 6pm, Davao City, Davao, Marco Polo Hotel, C.M. Recto St., Davao City
May 19 - 8am to 12noon, Davao City, Davao. Marco Polo Hotel, C.M. Recto St., Davao City
May 20, 21, 22, 23 - 8am to 6pm, Manila Intercontinental Manila, Salcedo Room, Makati City

Please bring 2 copies of the following if available: Resumé, Transcript of Records-BSN, PRC license & board rating, CGFNS results or certificate, Certificates of seminars/training, Birth Certificate, High School and College Diplomas. All CGFNS passers and qualifiers are eligible.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ECONOMIC SELF RELIANCE PROGRAMME
Caraballo and Southern Cordillera Agricultural Development
(ERP-CASCADE ALA/PH/9627)

CASCADE
2004

The DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE-ECONOMIC SELF RELIANCE PROGRAMME, Caraballo and Southern Cordillera Agricultural Development (DA-ERP-CASCADE) invites dealers/distributors, representatives or suppliers of Mini Dump Trucks to bid for the following:

Lot	Description	Quantity
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Interested parties may obtain tender documents free of charge starting **07 May 2001**, at:

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Nueva Vizcaya, OR

Department of Agriculture
Special Project Coordinating, Monitoring
Assistance Division (SPCMAD),
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

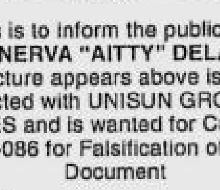
Submission of bids will be no later than 9:00 o'clock A.M. on **13 June 2001** at any of the above addresses. Opening of bids will be at 10:00 AM, **15 June 2001**, at the SPCMAD, Department of Agriculture, Room 302, Elliptical Road, Quezon City.

The right is reserved to reject any or all of the bids and to waive any informality in the bids received or to accept such bids as may be considered responsive and advantageous to the Programme.

(Sgd.) RENATO P. MANANTAN and GEORGES DEHOUX
Project Co-Directors

(PDI--May 6, 2001)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



This is to inform the public that
MS. MINERVA "AITTY" DELA CRUZ
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Daddy, Thank You. You will be forever in our hearts.

ENRIQUE "IKE" Q. TRINIDAD

President & Gen. Manager of Ecotrend Developers, Inc.

Peacefully joined our Lord on May 3, 2001
At Perpetual Help Hospital, Las Piñas City
At age 65.

His loving wife **Aurora**; his children **Mervic** and **Wilmer Lotilla**, **Jazmin** and **Jerd Tecson**; grandchildren **Sean**, **Nicole**, **Daniel**, **Kyle**, and **Jervin**; his brothers, sisters and relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Ecotrend Gardens, Ecotrend Villas, Fruto Santos Avenue, Zapote, Las Piñas City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, May 8, 2001, 3:00 PM at Golden Haven, Las Piñas City.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

With our utmost sympathy Tony and Family

In Loving Memory

of the 11th Death Anniversary (May 7, 1990) of

MAJOR (RET.) HERMITO P. HERRERA

of B.F. Executive West Village, Parañaque City and Pilar, Bataan.

Holy Masses will be celebrated at the following churches:

Our Lady of the Abandoned Parish .... Sta. Ana, Manila	6:30 AM
Our Lady of the Pilar Parish .... Pilar Village, Las Piñas City	7:30 AM
Nuestra Señora de Guia Parish .... Ermita, Manila	6:00 PM
Jesus the Divine Healer Parish .... Tahanan Village, Parañaque City	6:30 PM
Parish of the Resurrection .... B.F. Homes, Parañaque City	6:30 PM
Parish of the Presentation of the Child Jesus .... B.F. Homes, Parañaque City	6:45 AM
Nuestra Señora del Pilar Parish .... Pilar, Bataan	5:45 AM
St. Joseph Cathedral .... Balanga City, Bataan	6:30 AM

Atty. CESAR GARCIA RAMOS

March 22, 1934 - May 3, 2001
(of San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte and Quezon City)

Peacefully joined his Creator on May 3, 2001
at the age of 67.

His loving wife **Aida**; children **Flor**, **Zeny** and **Ike**, **Jeanette** and **Omar**, **Daisy** and **Ronchie**, grandchildren **Kaeyen** and **Mae-Mae**; brothers, sisters, in-laws, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

Interment will take place on Tuesday, May 8, 2001, 8:00 AM at Himlayang Pilipino Memorial Park, Tandang Sora, Quezon City.

"Only in God is my soul at rest, from him comes my salvation.
He only is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold: I shall not be disturbed at all.
Psalm 62:1-5

FOUR YEARS AGO TODAY

We bade farewell to our beloved Mom

CARMEN S. GUEVARA

(16 February 1912 - 6 May 1997)

and entrusted her to the care of our Loving Father in Heaven.
We kindly enjoin our friends, relatives and readers to remember her in prayer.

The following Masses are being offered for the eternal repose of her soul.

Pius the X, Long Island, New York	*8:30 a.m*
Santuario de San Jose, Greenhills, Mandaluyong	*6:15 p.m.*
St. Francis Church, Mandaluyong	*7:00 a.m*
St. John the Baptist Parish, Pinaglabanan, San Juan	*6:30 a.m.*
Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati	*7:45 a.m.*
Cardinal Santos Medical Centre Chapel, San Juan	*5:15 p.m*
St. John Bosco Parish, Makati	*5:15 p.m.*
Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Mandaluyong	*7:00 p.m*
The Most Holy Redeemer Parish, Masambong, Quezon City	*6:30 a.m.*
Mary the Queen Parish, Greenhills, San Juan	*7:15 p.m.*
Shrine of Mary, Queen of Peace (Our Lady of Edsa), Ortigas Avenue, Quezon City	*12:15 p.m*

...memory nourishes the heart, and grief abates.

Card of Thanks

We, the family of the late

FRANCIS EUGENE R. CAMPBELL

of Lagonoy, Camarines Sur

Who peacefully joined his Creator on April 21, 2001

wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to those who expressed their sympathy, visited, and kept vigil and offered Masses and prayers.

May God bless you.

*From: Wife **Josie Campbell**; Brother **Richard Campbell**; Sister-in-law **Norma Campbell***

"I am the resurrection and life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever believes in Me will never die."
John 11:25-26

TEODORA SANTIAGO COLLANTES

Beloved wife, mother and grandmother

Died in the Grace of our Lord on May 29, 2001 at the age of 79, in Oceanside, California, U.S.A.

Her loving husband **Ricardo Jr.**; children and in-laws **Nini** and **Noordin Jumalon**, **Ric** and **Gina Collantes**, **Mical** and **Raymund Calleja**, **Guada** and **Peter Confesor**; grandchildren **Yasnina**, **Yohani Jumalon**, **Camille**, **Christine**, **Colleen** (†) **Collantes**, **Carina Calleja**, **Jorie** and **Jerica Confesor**; her brother, sisters, in-laws, relatives and dear friends mourn her passing and wish her eternal rest.

A Requiem Mass will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2001 at 8:30 a.m. at the Claret Church, Mahinhin Street, U.P. Village. Interment will follow at St. Michael's Ossuarium, Parish of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary, Daily Mirror Street, West Triangle, Quezon City. The 40th day prayers will be held at their residence.

"For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day."
John 6:40

RAUL C. MUÑOZ

(Former Mayor of Catbalogan)

Peacefully joined his Creator after receiving the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist on May 2, 2001 at the age of 79.

His bereaved wife PENNY; children Sally and Toning, Bobby and Fe, Myrna, Liz and Oscar, Fritz and Amie, Marilou and Rene, Emy and Allan, Joy and Andrew; grandchildren, great grandchildren, brothers, sisters, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at his residence at Rizal Avenue corner San Francisco Street, Catbalogan, Samar.

Interment will be on May 9, 2001 after the 2 p.m. Mass at the San Bartholomew Church.

Card of Thanks

We, the family of the late

RAMON B. PASION

who peacefully joined his Creator on April 23, 2001

wish to extend our heartfelt gratitude to those who expressed their sympathy, visited, and kept vigil and offered Masses and prayers.

May God bless you.

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Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

MARK WELSON "BARON" TAN CHUA

who reunited with our Lord in His Paradise on March 15, 2001,

sincerely convey our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all those who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers and donations, visited and kept vigil, attended the funeral rites, helped and condoled with us in so many ways during our moment of bereavement.

Thank you very much. May the Good Lord bless you all!

"...The Lord does not keep the wicked alive; But gives justice to the afflicted..." Job 36:6

DOLORES T. MIRANDA

of Samal Bataan and Caloocan City
Widow of the late Manuel Miranda, Sr.

Peacefully joined her Creator
on May 5, 2001 at the age of 81

Her bereaved children Mario and Mary Ann, Manuel Jr. & Arlene; grandchildren Mary, Martin, Michelle, Mark, Miguel and Alyssa; brothers Rudolfo, Gerino & Jesus; sisters Luisa & Lydia, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Our Lady of Fatima Chapel, University Hills Subdivision, Caloocan City.

Interment will be announced later at the Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina.

EDNA BAQUIRAN BALTAZAR

Peacefully joined her Creator
on May 3, 2001 at the age of 47.

Survived by his mother Nieves Vda. de Baltazar, her brothers & sisters Ele Paz, Leopoldo, Marilyn, Reynaldo, Rowena and Nancy

Her remains lie in state at St. Ignatius Funeral Homes, Santolan Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be in Laoag City. (To be announced later)

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TO OUR DEAREST RELATIVES AND FRIENDS
OUR HEARTFELT THANKS

For visiting and being with us in our trying times,
For praying with us and for us,
For the Holy Masses you offered,
For the flowers and the gifts you gave,
For joining us in our nightly vigils,
For thinking of us in our time of grief, and
For all you have done to console our hearts
When our dearest
NANI
Peacefully joined our Lord on April 3, 2001.

FROM THE FAMILY OF THE LATE
Dr. Paciencia Reyes Mercado

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."
Matthew 11:28

ROSARIO C. JIMENEZ YALONG

of Sta. Ana, Manila

Widow of the late **Dominador Yalong, Sr.**; and sister of **Felicidad** (†), **Francisco** (†), **Mariano** (†), **Eleuterio** (†), **Alejandrino** (†), **Mercedes** (†), **Sr. Mary Bernard** (†); survived by her brothers **Bernardino** and **Manuel**, peacefully joined her Creator on May 4, 2001 at the age of 89 after receiving the last sacrament.

Her bereaved children **Baby** and **Cesar Alfaro, Josie** and **Nick Tabuso, Betty, Boy** and **Cora** (†) **Yalong** and **Menchie** and **Roger del Rosario**; nephews, nieces, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Garden Suite, Loyola Memorial Chapels in Guadalupe, Makati City. Interment to be announced later.

An obituary with a picture
can be a fitting tribute
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MESSAGE OF THANKS
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- Prices are VAT exclusive
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SAMPLE ADS

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love,
Issa

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cost: P550 vat inclusive

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Worldwide Moving Limited, a registered British company with offices in London, United Kingdom is pleased to announce that:

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- Worldwide has appointed FWIG Moving and Storage Inc. as its Exclusive Franchisee in the Philippines;
- FWIG Moving and Storage Inc. is a joint venture between Worldwide and Citadel Holdings, Inc., a 100% Filipino owned investment company with extensive interests in aviation and shipping;
- Only FWIG has the exclusive legal rights to trade under the Four Winds International Group trade mark.

Worldwide assures all Four Winds International Group customers of our commitment to delivering a high quality moving and storage service to our valued clients.

Steven Standring
Group Managing Director

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Tel. No. 838-8142/43
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Email: general@fourwinds.com.ph
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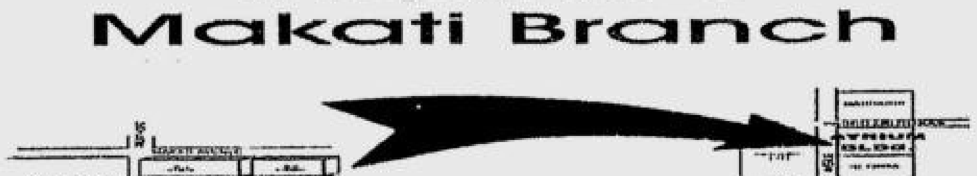
Inquirer's Makati Branch



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KALOOCAN

351res indinrEDSA 9978590

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Nr Roosevelt Ave 345m^2 5M H&L Bodega 09194520272

Nr TSora / Min Ave P2.8M 268m^2 w/ Bung 984-0150

Tchrs Vill 88LA 136FA 2sty 2BR 2TB 2.8M 921-4671

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Pacita 5yr 2 Pay 8472626

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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

OTHER AREAS

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LOT

LAS PINAS

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Cell. 0917-4837974 Cynthia

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Car Vans 4535288/9296250

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Skin Therapist & M.D. w/ Exp. Call 7219227/28; 7235265 Look 4 Naty or Dra. Umali

Urgently in need of
Acctg Clerk & Acctg. Mgr.
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ACCOUNTANT 2-3yrs. work exp./not more than 35 yrs. old , comp. literate/ knowledge in quick books apply at 9-B Road 15 Proj. 8 Quezon City.

Business Counselors and Marketing Trainors College Graduate w/ Pleasing Personality Basic Salary & Incentives Call 687-4311

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•Exp'd ME/Process Engr
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Office Staff 913-4470 Bing

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PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

Frank Hi-Pressure Washer Cold/ Hot&Cold w/ Stream Germany. We Invite Dealer, Sales Agents, Free Lancer Frank Dale Starr #44 Sgt Esguerra nr Hitop Supt. Tel. 924-1654 / 415-6644 Fax 924-1646 d_starr@compass.com.ph

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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late CESAR DALMACIO had been the subject of Deed of Extra-Judicial Settlement of Estate With Waiver of Rights/ Interests Among the Heirs under Doc. No. 198, Page 40, Book No. II, Series of 2001 in the Notarial Registry of Atty. Wendell E. Coronel of Makati City.
(PDI-April 29, May 6 & 13, 2001)

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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Shake-O Pearl Shake franchise low investment/high profits call 4148214-15 /9151734-35

NOTICE OF LOSS

**Notice is given on the Loss of Celebrity Sports Plaza Stock Cert. #113 under the name of Edmundo M. Tolentino
(PDI- May 6,13, & 20 2001)**

Notice is hereby given that SMC Stocks A in the names of Prudencio &/or Marcelina Falcon, both deceased, administered by Bernadette Falcon have been declared lost per Doc#377; Page#77; Book#37; Series of 2000 before Notary Public Concepcion Juantas of P'que., MM; 97455296, 96403646, 95253623, 94149511, 93073131, 92028273, 89029595, 89007702, 88003260, 86015130, 81077461, 79007013, 79041171, 99599519. 97455297, 96403647, 95253624, 94149512, 93073132, 92028274, 89029596,89007703, 88003261, 86015131, 81077462&80060343 PDI-April 29, May 6 &13,2001

PERSONAL

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THANK YOU HOLY SPIRIT

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SOFIA - 2 bedrooms, 1 t&b Price P1,305,246
SOFIA - 2 bedrooms with loft, 1 t&b Price P1,647,538.00

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PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND SALES

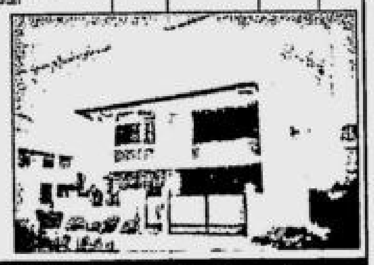
UP FOR SALE DOWN ON PRICE

REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES AT BOTTOM COST

HOUSE & LOTS, TOWNHOUSES & CONDOS

Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr Area	Price
ANTIPOLO				
12 Mocking Bird St. Phase IV, Vista Verde Country Homes	240	2-storey with 5BR and 3TB	248	2.5M
BACOOR, CAVITE				
Blk 1 Lot 18 St Michael Subd. Bo Talaba	300	one-storey with 2BR and 2TB	190	2.2M
BULACAN				
Pulong Buhangin Sta. Maria	5764	bungalow with 2BR and 1TB	100	5.5M
1029 Libis St. Saluysoy Meycauayan	856.33	single detached house with 7BR and 7TB	305.5	5.5M
CABUYAO, LAGUNA				
Blk. 13 Lot 8 Briliant St. Shineland Village	150	single detached with 2BR and 1TB	157.5	1.2M
CAINTA, RIZAL				
Blk. 9 Lot 1 Mt. Apo cor Sierra Madre Suburban Heights	200	bungalow with 3BR and 2TB	78	1.1M
No. 11 Burnley St. Brookside Hills Subd	285	2-storey with 4BR and 2TB	195	2.2M
CALOOCAN CITY				
9 Matanuil St. Amparo Subd. Novaliches	206	2-storey with 5BR and 3TB	[illegible]	1.44M
LAS PIÑAS CITY				
Blk 1 Lot 10 B Gutierrez St., BF Resort	267	3-storey with 3BR and 2TB	236	2.7M
47 Marpie Moran St. BF Resort Village	749	single detached house with 7BR and 5TB	260	5.8M
MANILA				
307-313 Ramirez St. San Nicolas	140	3-storey house/ mezzanine	[illegible]	14M
MONTALBAN, RIZAL				
Blk. 5 Lot 3 St. John St King David Subd	[illegible]	1-storey with 4BR and 2TB	[illegible]	[illegible]
MUNTINLUPA CITY				
#125 Lipa St. Ayala Alabang Village	864	2-storey with 4BR and 4TB swimming pool	548.5	26M

Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr. Area	Price
NOVELETA, CAVITE				
No. 360 Int. San Rafael III	417	residential compound (a bungalow with 1BR and 1TB and another 1-storey with basement, 1BR and 1TB	276	1.2M
PARAÑAQUE CITY				
Blk. 5 Lot 1 Emelvic St Greenheights Subd	1221	bungalow with 4BR and 3TB	285	6M
PASAY CITY				
1986 Taft Office Center Taft Ave. corner P. Samonte		residential/ office unit	134	4M
PASIG CITY				
114 Panama cor. Kingston St., Pasig Greenpark	292	single detached with 4BR and 3TB	191	2.14M
Unit 25-7 Crescent Condominium San Miguel Ave		2-level Condo with 3BR and 4TB	367.5	15M
QUEZON CITY				
Unit 3 Ma. Rosario Homes, TS Cruz Subd Brgy. San Agustin Novaliches	38.2	townhouse with 2BR and 1TB	46	500T
Int. Alcantara St. Bantal, Tandang Sora	276	single detached with 3BR and 2TB	126	1.1M
No. 8 Calalang Compd Brgy. Kaligayahan Novaliches	200	unfinished 3-storey with 6BR and 5TB	439	2.5M
(Blk. S-156 Lot 7) Unit 14 Ponte Alta Townhomes, Samar Ave., West Triangle, Diliman	86	3-storey townhouse with 4BR and 3TB	214	5.4M
SAN JUAN				
Unit 502 Casa Madrid Condominium Villa Pasadena 209 Pasadena Drive		condominium unit with 3BR and 2TB	122.22	3.75M
SAN MATEO, RIZAL				
Blk. 23 Lot 16 Colorado St. Greenland Newtown Subd	204	Duplex type (1-storey) with 2BR and 1TB/ 1BR and 1TB	132.92	1.5M
STO. TOMAS, BATANGAS				
Sto. Tomas near the Junction	2925	2-storey condominium building (office/display showroom)	336	25M
STA. ROSA, LAGUNA				
Blk. 1 Lot 7 Via Venezia St. Portofino Subd Sinalhan	166	2-storey house with 4BR and 3TB	[illegible]	1.6M



845-6848 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND SALES HOTLINE
[illegible]

INQUIRER TRIVIA

By BONG BARRAMEDA

Toeing the line

Q. How come the phrase 'toe the line' means to follow orders strictly or to meet a standard?

A. The 'line' was originally one drawn across the center of a boxing ring in the sport's early years. At the start of each round the boxers were required to 'toe the line,' that is, touch the line with their toes. This was to test, especially in the latter rounds, whether they were fit to fight. A boxer who fails to comply with the rule within 10 seconds was automatically disqualified.

For the Record. Fourteen of the 26 bones in each of your foot are toe bones. Your big toe has only two bones, while the rest of your toes each have 3. In most people, the big toe is the longest, but in some the second toe is the longest. The gait of your right foot does not usually match that of your left. In a normal walking gait, the whole foot is never flat on the ground. And in case you haven't noticed, the soles of your feet contain more sweat glands and more pressure-sensitive nerve endings per square inch than any other part of your body.

Past Forward. This day in 1954: Roger Bannister, a 25-year-old British medical student, broke an invisible barrier by becoming the first man to run the mile in less than four minutes in Oxford, England. He clocked 3 min. 59.4 sec. to break by two seconds the nine-year-old world record owned by Gunder Hagg of Sweden.

WORD WATCH

Paligsahan : from the Sanskrit *pariksa*, meaning 'trial' or 'examination.'

PDI – May 6, 2001

Republic of the Philippines
Municipality of Kabugao
Province of Apayao

Invitation to Submit Quotations
ITB No. KNC-00-03

May 6, 2001

To: **All Eligible Contractors.**

The Republic of the Philippines has received a loan from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) towards the financing of the cost of Third Elementary Education Project (TEEP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of the loan to cover eligible payments for the construction/repair of classrooms.

This invitation is open to all contractors from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines for Procurement under JBIC Loans and IDA Credits. The Municipal Government of Kabugao, Apayao and its implementing partner, DECS, in the implementation of the School Building Program (SBP) component of TEEP invites sealed offers/quotations from eligible contractors for the Construction of Two (2) Units - Two (2) Classroom School Building in Lenneng Elementary School and Two (2) Classroom School Building in Binuan Elementary School, Kabugao, Apayao.

Bid documents may be purchased at the Office of the Municipal Engineer, Kabugao, Apayao for a nonrefundable fee of P 1,000.00 pesos on **May 30, 2001**. Pre-Bid Conference shall be held at the Municipal Executive Building on **June 6, 2001** at Kabugao, Apayao. Interested contractors may obtain further information at the same address.

Offers or quotations shall be valid for a period of 100 days after opening of quotations and must be accompanied by a bid security of Two-and-one-half (2-1/2%) percent of total quoted price; and shall be delivered to the Chairperson, Pre/post-qualification, Bids and Awards Committee (PBAC), Municipality of Kabugao, Province of Apayao on or before 10:00 a.m., **June 6, 2001**.

The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids which may be found disadvantageous to the government.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) **DIONISIO S. AGUDELO**
Chairperson
Pre/post-qualification, Bids and Awards Committee
Municipality of Kabugao, Apayao

(PDI – May 6, 2001)

PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR LOGISTICS AND SUPPORT COMMAND
Clark Air Base, Philippine Air Force
(Air Force City)
Angeles City, Pampanga

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The Philippine Air Force invites all interested parties to pre-qualify and to bid for the IRAN (Inspection and Repair as Necessary) of One Aero Commander Aircraft.

The Pre-qualification Conference will be held on **18 May 2001** at 0830 AM at the Air Logistics and Support Command Conference Room, Air Force City, Clark Field, Pampanga.

Bidding schedule shall be announced to all pre-qualified bidders.

The Philippine Air Force reserves the right to reject all bids, waive any defects contained therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the government.

For particulars, please contact MAJOR HENRY B. SALVADOR, Tel. No. 0919-2353229 ALSC, Air Force City, Clark Field, Pampanga.

(Sgd.) **EDWIN N. GALZOTE**
Colonel, PAF(GSC)
CHAIRMAN, PAFSBAC

(PDI - May 6 2001)

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
DECS Complex, Meralco Avenue
Pasig City, Philippines

Tanggapan ng Kalihim
Office of the Secretary

INVITATION TO BID

The Department of Education, Culture and Sports is inviting all DECS Accredited Suppliers for the Installation of Network System for Communications at the Office of the Secretary.

All interested suppliers must submit a Letter of Intent before obtaining bid documents starting **May 7 to 15, 2001** at the PBAC Secretariat Office, Rm 112 A. Mabini Bldg., ULTRA Complex, Pasig City.

A pre-bid conference will be held on **May 20, 2001**, 10:00 AM at Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal Bldg. I, ULTRA Complex, Pasig City. The Submission and Opening of Bids will be on May 29, 2001 at the same time and place mentioned above.

DECS-BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids to waive deficiencies embodied therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the bidder may incur in the preparation of the bids.

(Sgd.) **ERNESTO S. PANGAN**
Undersecretary

(PDI--May 5, 6 & 7, 2001)

PNOC

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY
PNOC Building VI, Energy Center
Merritt Road, Fort Bonifacio, M.M.
Tel. No.: 555-0254 / 845-0832

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

The PHILIPPINE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY (PNOC) invites accredited Contractors to submit sealed bids for the following requirements:

PROJECT	Pre-Bid Meeting	Pre-Qualification Deadline	Bid Deadline
1. Security Services (Metro Manila) WO-01-016	May 10, 2001 (2:00 PM)	May 15, 2001	May 31, 2001 (2:00 PM)
2. Security Services Provincial WO-01-022	May 10, 2001 (2:30 PM)	May 15, 2001	May 31, 2001 (2:00 PM)
3. Design, Layout & Printing of 2000 PNOC Annual Report WO-01-017	May 15, 2001 (2:00 PM)	May 22, 2001	May 31, 2001 (2:00 PM)

Interested ACCREDITED parties may obtain bid forms upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00 per bid package from the PNOC - Property and Supply Management Division (PSMD) at the G/F of the PNOC Building.

Interested parties who are not yet accredited must first pass the pre-qualification process. Pre-qualification documents-checklist is available at the said address upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00, which must be accomplished and submitted to PSMD on or before the set deadline. Failure to pre-qualify would render the concerned parties automatically disqualified from this bidding.

For purposes of clarifying issues, interested parties are encouraged to attend the pre-bid meeting as scheduled.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security equivalent to 10% of the total bid price but not to exceed ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00), secured from any one of PNOC's accredited bonding companies.

The PNOC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive formality therein or to accept such bids or to award any work that are considered most advantageous to the company.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. PEDRO A. AQUINO, JR.**
Senior Vice President
Legal, Admin., and Estate Management Services

(PDI--May 6 & 7, 2001)

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FAST STEP
towards
finding
the best
JOBS.

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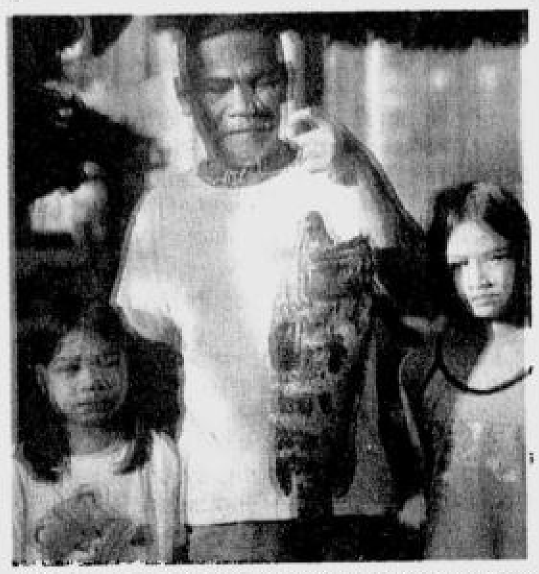
Mad cow scare ups fish prices, but fishermen aren't happy



THE ONE that didn't get away: Hebrado with his 2.4-pound lapu-lapu catch, niece Danica, 7, and daughter C-Ann, 11.

By Pennie Azarcon-Dela Cruz

EUROPE's mad cow scare and foot and mouth disease may have upped the price of fish to maddening heights as beef and pork are stricken off grocery lists. But fisherfolk aren't exactly swimming in dough these days. If anything, the soaring price of fish has left fishing towns with leftover small fry and prices that are hard to swallow.

"I can't understand why fish cost so much these days when we're a fishing town," complains Marcelina Hebrado, 51, who lives in Quezon, Alabat Island, some 14 kilometers from the Quezon mainland.

A kilo of everyday fish used to cost P40 a kilo, says Hebrado, but now she sometimes has to shell out P110 for a kilo of *alumahan*, almost as much as they cost in Manila's wet markets.

Worse, fancy fishes like lapu-lapu, red snapper and salmon have become a rarity in this island, to be replaced by smaller common varieties like *galunggong* and *hasa-hasa*.

Quezon Municipal Agricultural Officer Benjie Villaflor sees market forces as the new player in the shrinking supply of fish in their locality.

"There's a strong demand for fish even as near as Lucena and Gumaca, so fisherfolk can dictate higher prices," he says. Manila too, he adds, want more fish varieties so the better varieties are automatically shipped out of the island. "That leaves the barangay with relatively cheaper fish classified as *pangkain lang* (ordinary everyday fare)."

Barangay Captain Efren Hebrado, who heard about the mad cow disease over the radio and on television, adds that tanigue, lapu-lapu and *dilawan* (salmon) still find their way in local markets "at much lower prices" but only as "leftovers from commercial fishing vessels."

The higher demand for fish, he adds, has no effect on the small fisherman; only big-time fish concessionaires and middlemen reap the windfall. A lot has to do with the eating habits of the islanders, he adds.

"People here expect fresh fish all the time so they only buy enough for the day's meal," Hebrado notes. Naturally, fisherfolk limit their catch lest they wind up with unsold fish. "Even dried fish or *daeng* should be freshly made and consumed a day or two after being salted dry." Bound by such habit, the ordinary fisherfolk would call it a day after netting two or three kilos, which he then sells, depending on the variety of his catch, at P40-P80 a kilo.

"Sometimes, when the sun gets too hot like

MAD COW/ B2

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Execs trade . . .

(From page B1)

"There is wine for everyone. Our philosophy is that we provide the best wine for that price. It does not mean that just because a bottle of wine is cheap, it does not taste good. It is a very personal thing. What one person finds very good, another person may find lacking." Lichaytoo says.

Raul Basobas, assistant manager of Ciao, the Italian restaurant of Dusit Hotel Nikko, says Filipinos are not yet known to be wine drinkers. He, however, says that the popularity of wine buffets offered by leading hotels shows that there is growing awareness for this drink enjoyed even before the time of Jesus Christ.

"In Ciao we see young executives and a lot of middle-aged men and women ordering wine. Before they used to order cognac or brandy with their drinks but now they order wine," Basobas says

He says Filipinos by far prefer red wine to white wine or champagne perhaps because of the fuller flavor. Red wine is traditionally paired with red meat dishes or dishes with rich sauces while white wine is for white meat and fish.

"The goal in pairing wine with food is compatibility -- neither should overpower the other." Basobas explains.

At Ciao, he says the more popular drinks include the French Chablis 1998, Pasquier-Desvignes; Beaujolais Villages 1998, Louis Jadot considered a light bodied red wine; Cheval Noir 1995, St. Emillion. Cabernet Sauvignon 1996, Hardys, Coonawara, and the Rio Cassero 1992, Brunello Di Montalcino.

Basobas stresses that there are no hard and fast rules to determining the preferences of the clients, saying that it really depends on the individual. Some prefer to drink white wine even with meat dishes, and others pair red wine with fish and chicken. It is really a matter of choice, he says.

CHEVAL NOIR. Cheval Noir or the "Black Horse" is a top class wine from the region of St. Emilion. Always balanced, the rich plump jammy merlot fruit dominates the wine making. The vanilla finish reveals the well integrated oak. Aficionados have to shell out P870.00 a bottle to enjoy this wine.

BILLECART'SALMON BRUT RESERVE. For over 180 years, the House of Billecart Salmon has produced some of the world's finest and the most exclusive champagnes. This champagne is aged for four years and is served either as an aperitif or as a compliment to desserts and fruits. It costs P2,100 each.

Sunday LIFESTYLE
CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor

RANDY HORMILLOSA

TOBY Tañada

His father's son

BY CATHY BABAO GUBALLA

TATAY said he was named after a saint in the calendar but for some reason, that name's no longer there," chuckles the good-looking Toby Tañada as he relates the origins of his name.

"Tatay" is Wigberto "Bobby" Tañada, the congressman from Quezon who figured prominently in the prosecution of ousted President Joseph Estrada at his impeachment trial.

The father had sworn that he would never pass on his name to any of his sons because, for one, it was

HIS/ p.C6

Upstaged by everyone's favorite 'Mare'

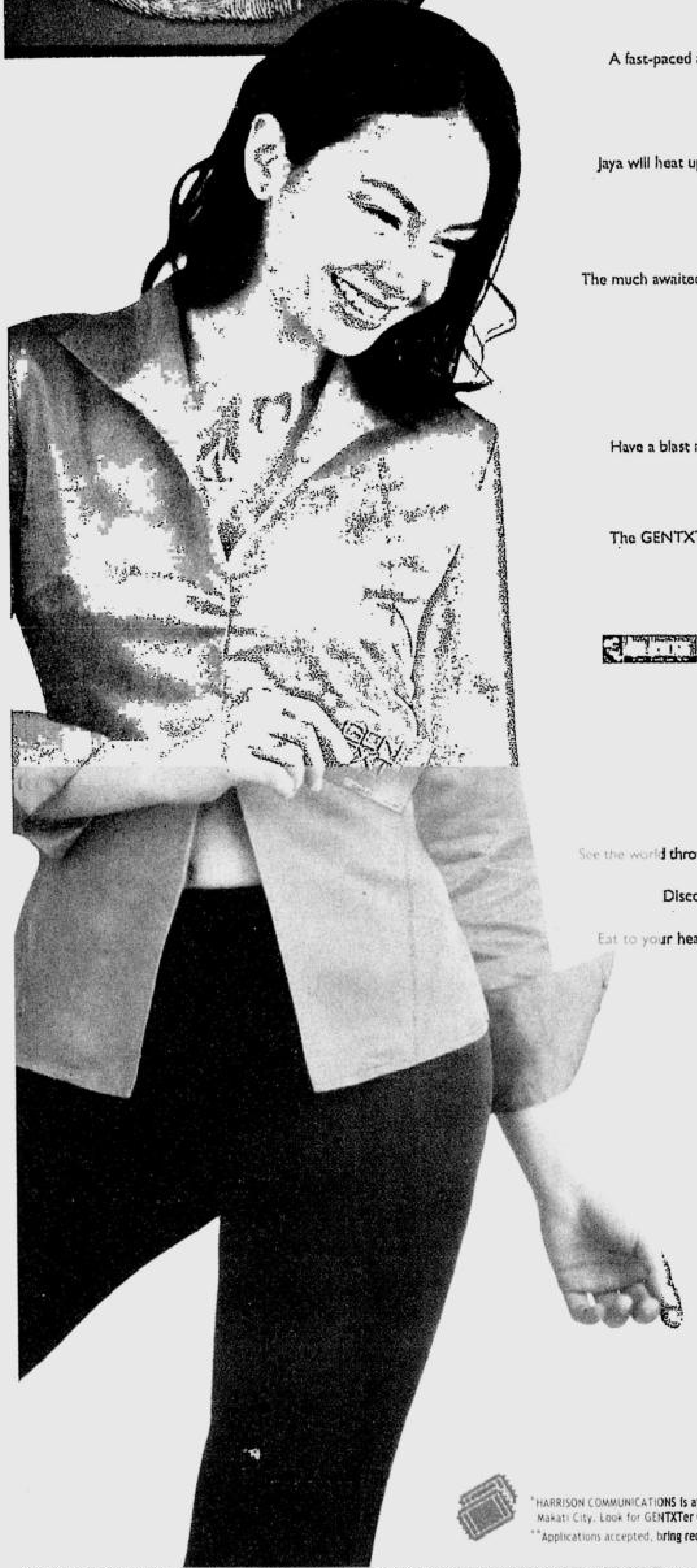
BY ALEX Y. VERGARA

STAGE actress Tami Monsod was all set to help jumpstart mother Winnie Monsod's senatorial bid early this year. Instead of taking new roles soon after her critically acclaimed performance

UPSTAGED/p.C6

WINNIE
MONSOD
SENADOR

TAMI Monsod



GENTXT

May Gig Guide

"15 Minutes", Advanced Screening
(In cooperation with DWTM 89.9 Magic)
A fast-paced action thriller starring Robert de Niro and Edward Burns to keep you at the edge of your seats. First 40 GENTXTers to go to Harrison Communications starting May 7 will get free tickets.
>> SM Megamall Cinema 11 - 7:30 PM*
8

Crossover Live
Jaya will heat up the summer concert scene with a musical show at the Mandarin Oriental. First five GENTXTers to go Harrison Communications starting May 9 will get a pair of concert invites.
>> Mandarin Oriental - 7:30 PM*
10

"The Mummy Returns", Advanced Screenings
(In cooperation with DWRX 93.1)
The much awaited adventure-comedy sequel to the 1999 hit "The Mummy" stars Brendan Fraser. First 40 GENTXTers to go to Harrison Communications starting May 14 will get free tickets.
>> SM Megamall Cinema 3 - 7:30 PM, May 15*
(sponsored by Channel E!)
First 30 GENTXTers to go to Harrison Communications starting May 16 will get free tickets.
>> Louie's THX - 8:00 PM, May 17*
15&17

GENTXT Anniversary Celebration
Have a blast as hot celebrity hosts and the country's top live acts welcome another year of GENTXT with top-caliber entertainment Cool freebies, free-flowing beer and sizzling raffle prizes complete the party.
>> Eastwood City Walk, Libis, QC - 9:00 PM, May 18**
>> The Village, Cebu - 9:00 PM, May 18**
18&19

The GENTXT Anniversary Party turns up the temperature in Baguio and storms through Davao with more bands and celebrities. Non-stop entertainment, raffle prizes, freebies and free drinks fuel the night.
>> Nevada Square, Baguio – 9:00 PM, May 19**
>> Matina Town Square, Davao – 9:00 PM, May 19**

A Special Night at Bravo!
Bravo! throws a big party for GENTXTers and their friends. Get free food and free drinks.
>> Bravo!, Malate - 8:00 PM
30

Special Summer Offers

Executive Optical — WHOLE MONTH
See the world through rose-colored lenses. Get your first pair of Radiance or Optical Illusions contact lenses at 20% off and the second pair at 50% off.

Ayala Cinemas — WHOLE MONTH
Discover cinematic masterpieces in these state-of-the-art theaters. Buy 2 tickets and get 1 ticket free at the Greenbelt Cinemas.

Bravo!, Malate & Alabang — WHOLE MONTH
Eat to your heart's content every Wednesday of May when this fancy Italian restaurant offers a free solo per lei pizza and an Italian cocktail for every order of the same drink.

Pearl of the Pacific, Boracay — WHOLE MONTH
Treat yourself to 30% off on room rate packages and 15% off on food and drinks at this classy Island resort.

New Partners

The Athlete's Foot
GENTXTers drown in a trendy selection of sport shoes at 10% off on regular-priced items for all cash and credit purchases in all leading outlets.

New Balance
The newest and hippest line of quality sport shoes offers 10% off on regular-priced items for all cash and credit purchases in all leading department stores.

Scubaworld, Boracay
GENTXTers take the plunge and enjoy 10% off on fun dives and all aqua sports equipment.

Le Soleil de Boracay
Troop to the white sands of Boracay and enjoy 15% off on published room rates and food and drinks (except from Dec. 20, 2001 to Jan. 7, 2002 and during Holy Week-Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday).

Tribal Adventure Tours
Spend the remaining summer days doing active aqua sports with 15% off on kayak and bike rentals and on adventure tours outside of Boracay (prior booking needed).

Davidoff Cool Water
Davidoff Cool Water offers a free duo miniature for every purchase of any Davidoff Cool Water product at any perfume and cosmetic area in SM Megamall, SM North Edsa and Rustan's Makati.

*HARRISON COMMUNICATIONS is at the 4/F First Life Center Bldg., 174 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City. Look for GENTXTer Cecille, flash your GENTXT card, and get your free tickets.
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Flores de Mayo chic

By Rowena C. Burgos

THERE are many aspects of Philippine culture: Strong Christian and Spanish influence, an innate love for beauty honed by an advanced education and a prolific creativity that finds expression everywhere, from music to food to dance to architecture.

But it's not only traditional culture that flourishes here. The Philippines is also a center for contemporary art: music, ballet, painting, sculpture, theater, film and fashion—various renditions of which have received innumerable awards at international festivals.

Then there are thousands of town fiestas and grand processions throughout the country, especially during the month of May. Today, the Department of Tourism (DOT) will celebrate the country's best-loved fiesta, the Flores de Mayo.

Held in honor of the Virgin Mary and marked with floral offerings to her various images, Flores de Mayo showcases the spirit born of religiosity and folk belief. It is made solemn by ritual, colored by the Filipinos' limitless penchant for external gesture, gallantry and lavishness, which all form part of his almost childlike faith.

DOT's *santacrusan*, featuring *sagalas* wearing Filipiniana creations, will start at the grand stairway of the department's building on T.M. Kalaw. The procession will go around Rizal Park and end at the Orchidarium for the awarding of special prizes. The affair will culminate in a 30-minute grand display of fireworks at the Valencia Circle.

Return to glamour and romance

Brimming with vitality, glamour and romance, the Flores de Mayo will showcase *baro't saya* creations with the colors of the sunset as motif of the country's 31 fashion designers. Everything goes from indigenous materials to fluttering feathers and flounced skirts to multicolored sequins and glitzy ensembles. Highly textured fabrics from antique looms will be mixed in harmonious contrast with the luxury of chiffon, fur trimmings, laces, satin and velvets.

Beauty queens, movie personalities, models and celebrities like Miriam Quiambao, Daisy Reyes, Ara Mina, Angela Velez, Carlos Morales and Robert Duat are among the *sagalas* and escorts who'll join the event.

Participating designers are Danilo Franco, Renee Salud, Frederick Peralta, Fanny Serrano, Edgar San Diego, Gener Gozum, Eddie Baddeo, Edgar Allan, Arriele Agasang, Lito Perez, Vivo Nazareth, Edwin Tan, Rodel Arre, Francis Calaquian, Pepsi Herrera, Blas Aligno, Johnny Abad, Ronaldo Arnaldo, Ivan dela Cruz, Babang del Mundo, Edna Encarnacion, Jon Espeleta, Rolando Lirio, Dennis Martin, Ole Morabe, Richard Papa, Rholand Roxas, Jontie Martinez, Ramon Esteban, Milo Afable and Adrian Rios.

"Designers spend from P25,000-125,000 per creation, but they don't mind at all. Through this event, we can project the Filipino identity and hopefully inculcate a deeper sense of pride," Lito Perez, president of the Fashion Designers Association of the Phils., says.

"While other designers claim that sky is the limit for their creations, expression of their talents and creativity are far more important. We enjoy what we are doing and taking part in this prestigious traditional affair is our way of thanking the Blessed Virgin Mary for our blessings," Eddie Baddeo adds.

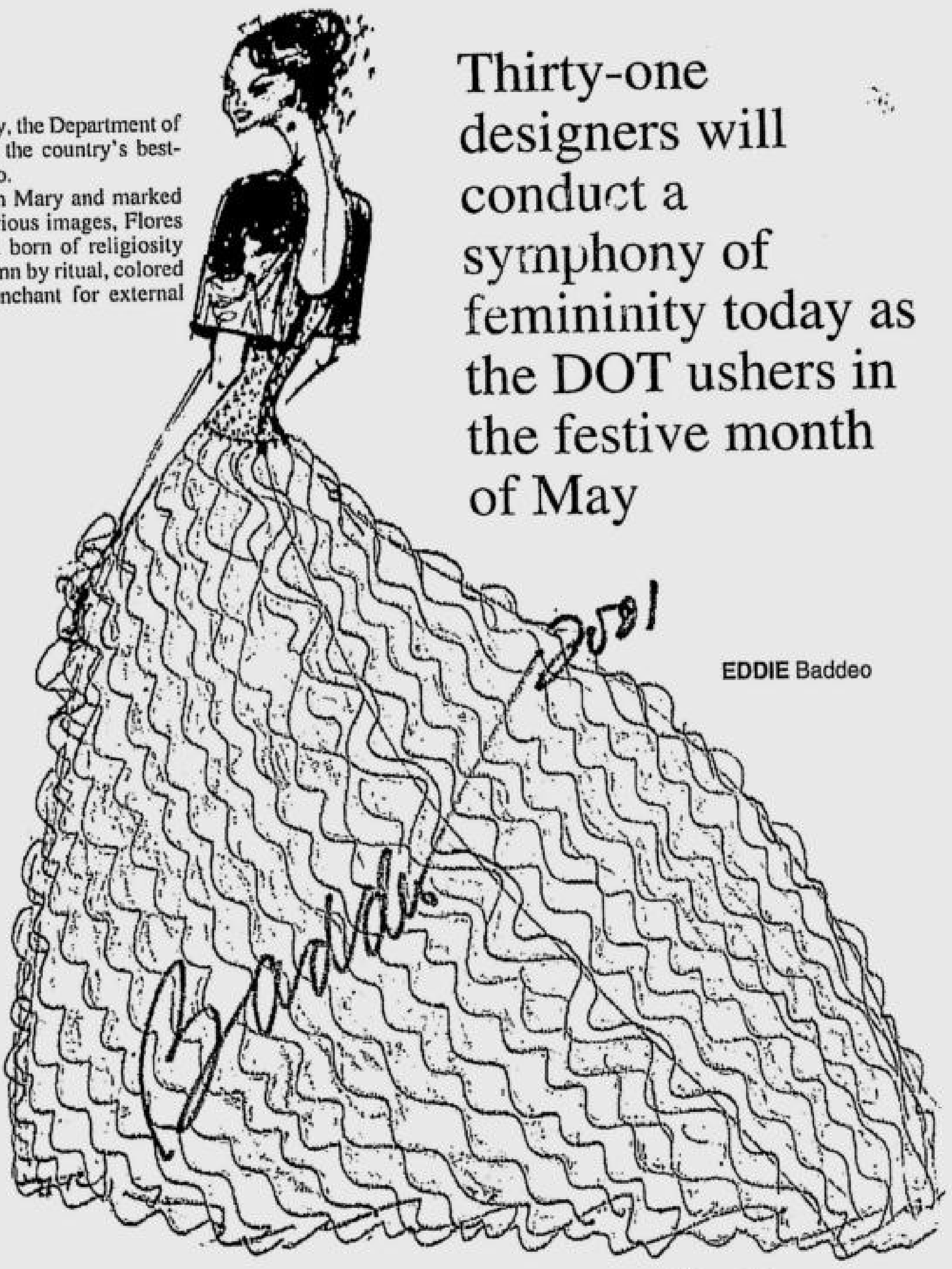
Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon and Olongapo City Mayor Kate Gordon, Manila Mayor and Mrs. Jose Atienza Jr. and Unilever Phils. president and Mrs. Howard Belton are this year's *hermanos* and *hermanas mayores*.

The DOT spearheads the steering committee together with fashion czar Ben Farrales.

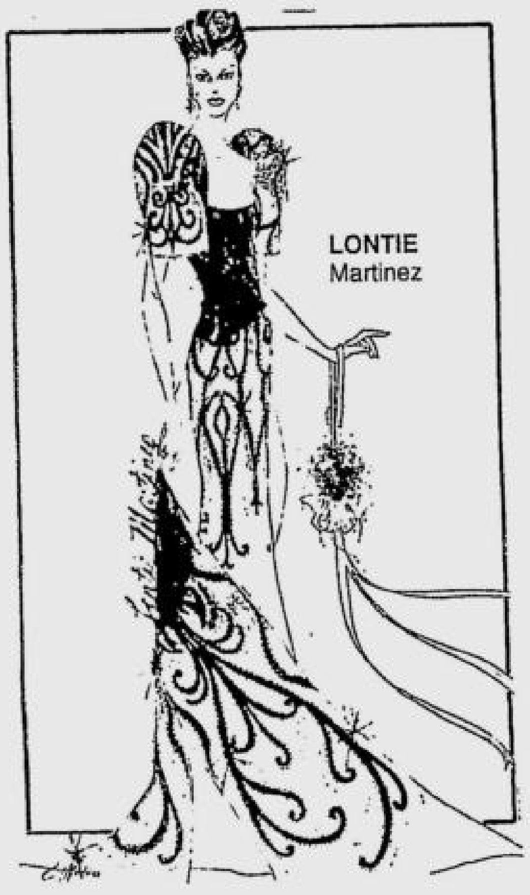
Tickets, which will sell at P500, will entitle holders to a festive dinner at the Lush Life Restaurant, Orchidarium, Rizal Park and an opportunity to witness the awarding ceremonies.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph

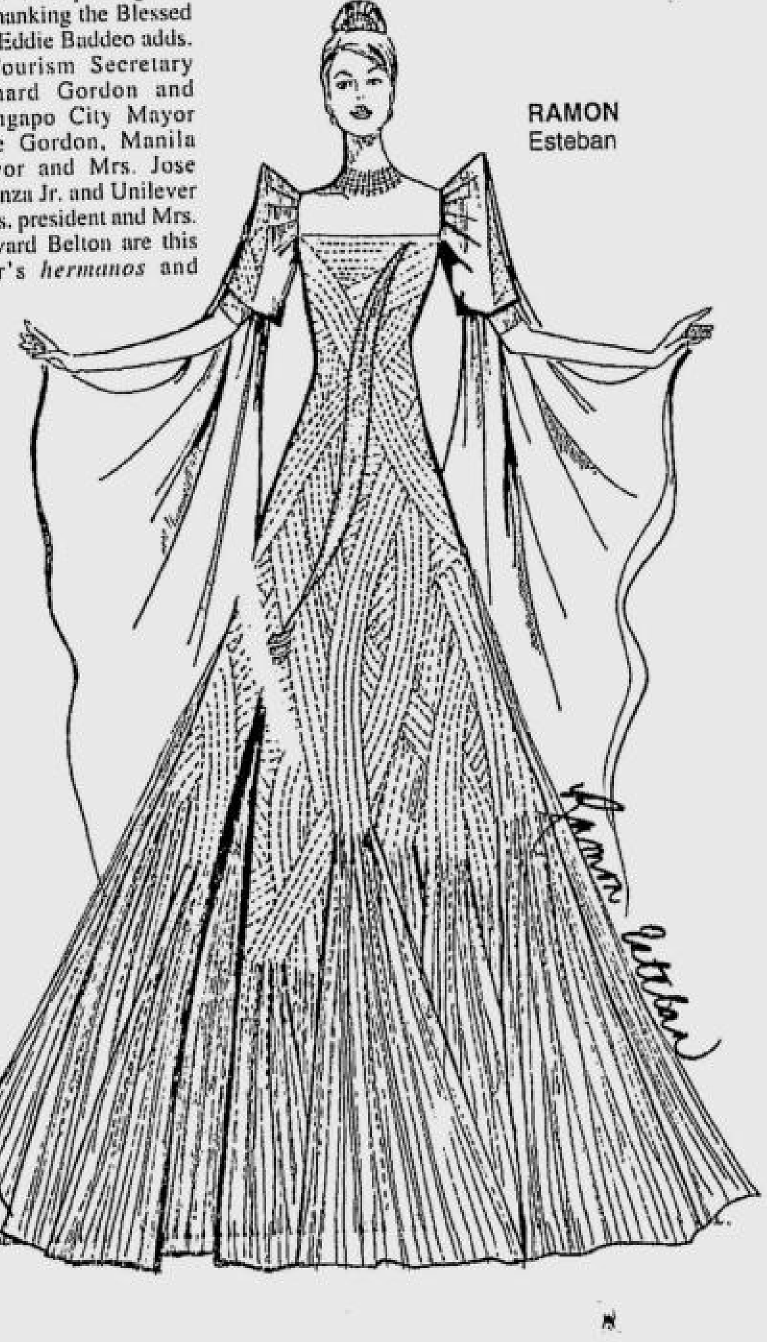
Thirty-one designers will conduct a symphony of femininity today as the DOT ushers in the festive month of May



EDDIE Baddeo



LONTIE Martinez



RAMON Esteban

SERIES 7

Dr. Anna Lena Lopez, M.D., A.B.P.
Pediatric Infectious Disease
Clinical Associate, Professor, U.P.P.G.H.

Baby's Bacteria Buddies

Bacteria have always had a bad image as disease-causing, microscopic monsters. And so, armed with sterilisers, disinfectants and rubbing alcohol, a conscientious mommy will do all she can to keep still-sensitive baby away from bacteria. With all this fuss over a squeaky-clean, baby-safe environment, it's kind of hard to believe a "germ-laden" gastro-intestinal tract is actually better for baby than a germ-free one.

Immunity-Building Bifidus

In contrast to the more familiar "bad bacteria" that make baby sick, there are actually "good bacteria" that help baby stay healthy. Among these good bacteria are Bifidobacteria or Bifidus. Bifidus appear in baby's gastro-intestinal tract or GIT, around 2 to 5 days after birth. After a week, it becomes the GIT's predominant micro-organism. All babies have large amounts of Bifidus, especially if they're breastfed.

Researchers point to high levels of Bifidus in a breastfed baby as a key reason why he is better able to resist infection. The beneficial effects of Bifidus have been traced to its ability to hinder disease-causing bacteria from multiplying in baby's GIT. Bifidus are found to produce substances that are able to fight bad bacteria. But that's not all – Bifidus also help build baby's GIT immune system by helping to increase antibodies and creating a barrier against both bad bacteria and viruses.

Gastro Guardian Angels

Once Baby is weaned from breastmilk or his regular starter formula, his store of Bifidus goes down, making room for other kinds of bacteria to multiply in his GIT. But after years of research, experts have made it possible to include live Bifidus in formulas *(called probiotics)* suited for weaning babies. Sure enough, studies show that babies taking Bifidus-enriched formulas are less likely to develop infection and diarrhea. Their natural body defenses are further strengthened. *An antibody called IgA is stimulated and toxic substances produced in the GIT like ammonia are decreased.* Research also shows that Bifidus enhance lactose digestion. Babies who do not have enough of the lactase enzyme to digest lactose suffer from diarrhea, bloating and abdominal pain, signs associated with a condition called lactose intolerance. Hence, Bifidus improve digestion, utilization, and even synthesis of nutrients like vitamins B and K. Further studies also suggest making Bifidus a regular part of Baby's diet, as infants who continued to take the Bifidus-rich formulas, were observed to have *naturally soft stools, healthy frequency of bowel movements and less diaper-rash.*

In summary, Bifidus help boost the baby's immune system and provide further benefits that lead to healthier children.

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Umberto Cesari
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P 360*

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P 312*
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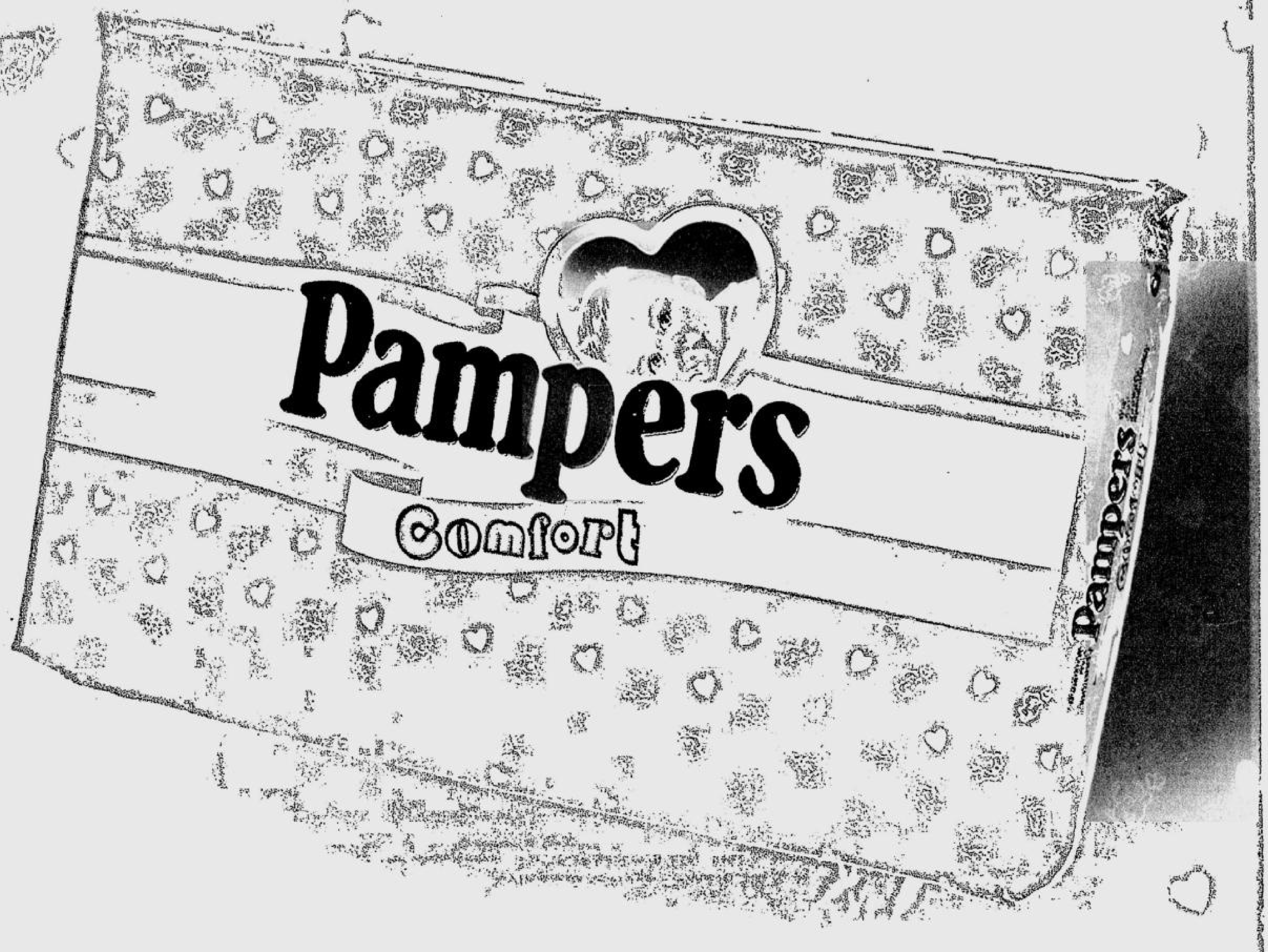

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Womanpower via the ballot

BY ROWENA C. BURGOS

IN ASIA, where women have been traditionally expected to be timid and passive, there is a growing trend toward female leadership.

In our country, former President Corazon Aquino and the incumbent Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo continue to electrify their followers and endeavor to deal with intractable social issues that male leaders wouldn't touch with a 10-foot pole.

Recent events have shown that we cannot entirely leave politics to politicians. Graft and corruption, immorality, incompetence and the lavish lifestyle of ousted President Joseph Estrada and his families have emboldened WomenVote to get involved in politics. "It is our duty to assert our right to good governance. And it's high time that women asserted such right through the power of their vote," says Inday Santiago, chair of WomenVote. Santiago made an unsuccessful bid for the vice presidency in the 1998 national elections as runningmate of former senator and current Education Secretary Raul Roco.

The other officers of WomenVote are Mel Alonso and Alice de la Gente, vice chair; Lina Laigo, president; Dolly de Quiros Castillo, Nenita Lacaya and Lillian Rosario, vice presidents; Lorna Kapunan, secretary; Tes Choa, treasurer; Marily Orosa, PRO, and Elizabeth Micaller, auditor.

Of the 35 million voters in the Philippines, half are women, and they can determine the outcome of the 2001 elections only if they are organized.

Catalyst

Founded on March 10, WomenVote bids to transform politics into effective governance by endorsing and campaigning for women electoral candidates who will bring strength and compassion into government. "They should be of high moral standards and ethical values, competent, outstanding performers in their chosen profession and pro-women. Women who are committed to social justice and gender equality are those who'd make a difference," Santiago says.

The group seeks to bind candidates to an ethical code of conduct. "They have to sign a covenant with WomenVote so they'd be accountable to us for the strengthening of our democracy. If they break the covenant, sanctions will be imposed," Santiago explains.

With an agenda that will surely benefit women, their families and communities, WomenVote rejects outright the notion of modeling themselves or their policies on male political images. They are integrating their values as individuals and as women into the stands they take on a whole range of domestic issues.

WomenVote does not believe there is a commitment to the not-so-glamorous issues that make a difference to women at the grassroots level—childcare, better conditions for careers, work opportunities for women, the continuing issue of discrimination at work. But the group is optimistic that there will be a big increase in the number of women in positions that are normally considered to be male concerns. "Politicians can't make a connection with issues they don't care about. This is why we want to put more women in public office for they don't have to play men's games to survive politically," Santiago says.

Power in numbers

Santiago is optimistic that women will attain critical mass—the turning point when women, and supportive male colleagues, have the power and numbers to bring their agenda to the forefront and start a self-sustaining megatrend that elects more females to higher offices.

Today women's electoral power exceeds men's. Historically, men voted in greater numbers than women, but beginning in 1980, the trend has reversed. Women make up 50 percent of the electorate. Women who may have encountered prejudice and sexual harassment are devoted to giving competent female candidates a chance in the poll booth.

Women as well as men are revolted by politics-as-usual. People are ready for a new breed of political leaders and women fit the profile. Most voters consider women candidates more honest and compassionate than their male counterparts, say studies by World Bank and Transparency International. Voters see women as incorruptible outsiders who seek change and try to make government work for ordinary people. "The studies show that countries with a high proportion of women political leaders have lower incidence of corruption," Santiago adds.

As women bring a fresh, nondogmatic approach to politics, it's hoped that they'll make their move, stun the pundits... and the rest, as they say, will be history.

Call WomenVote at 895-4040, 925-1147 or (0917) 811-0386, or e-mail jasaints@dv.webling.com or marilyo@yahoo.com.

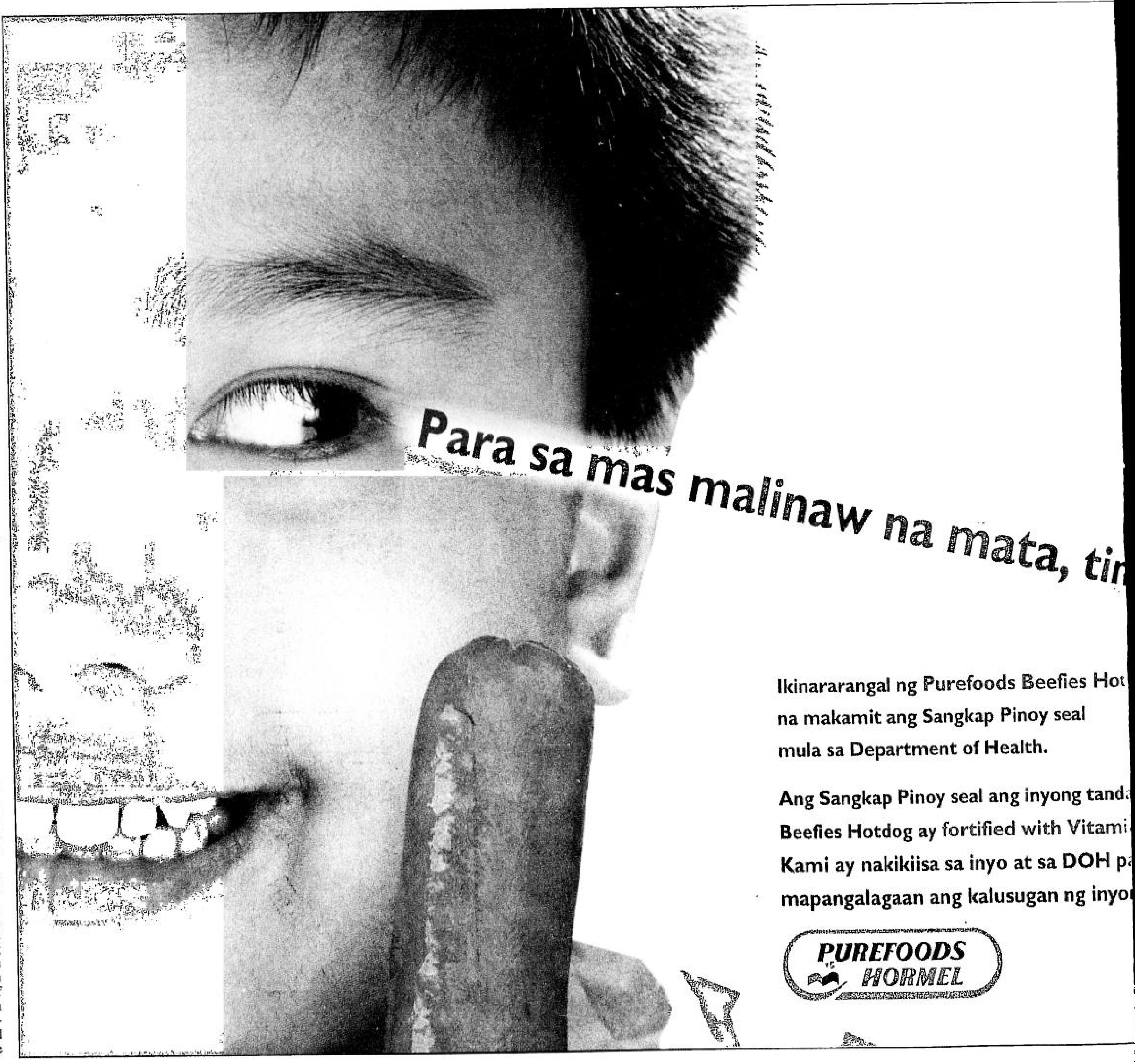
E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph

para sa pulitikang Pagbab

HEN PARTY. Tes Choa (treasurer of WomenVote), Lina Laigo, Winnie Monsod, Inday Santiago, Nina Rasul, Liway Chato and Mel Alonso

Women no longer have to ride and fight in armor to have a respected voice in affairs of the nation

MARILY Orosa, WomenVote PRO; Beth Micaller, auditor; Anita Peña and Liway Chato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PUREFOODS HORMEL

Looking for a soul mate

DEAR Tita Dulce,

My cousin Margot, an avid fan of yours, advised me to seek your help. I am single, in my late 40s, economically and mentally stable and currently searching for my soul mate. I am stationed here in Manila up to the end of the year. I am looking for a single Filipina, with no excess baggage, who believes in the paranormal and with very good analytical skills.

Living in a Western society filled with hourly challenge is exacting. It is ideal to have children from quality genes. I quest for one think-out-of-the-box, someone between 27 and 38. She does not have to be a degree holder, as Bill Gates himself was a college dropout. Someone who venerates an omnipotent creator. She does not have to be attractive, as the real beauty emanates from within... someone who is free from the shackles of her culture.

Thank you for taking time to heed my request.

BRIAN GATES

This is an advice column, not one for those seeking life partners. However, I have decided to use your letter to raise hopes for ladies who answer your description. You see, sometimes I quote a letter for another reason, and this time, it is to assure single ladies that the problem of seeking a love mate is not just among them, but also with young men.

The e-mail address of this writer is rootz@edsamail.com.ph. My instinct tells me he is an American citizen. Good luck, girls.

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

But, dear readers, please don't send me the same kind of request as the one above, because it won't see print. There are pen-pal columns, like the one in Pinoy Times.

An advice: Go into sports, cousin

I WOULD like to give unsolicited advice to Mr. Harris, hurt by unrequited feelings for his cousin (PDI Lifestyle, 04/20/01). I know he is having a hard time and I want to condole with him. But what he feels for his cousin is not true love in the real sense. In his letter, he said he felt the things only three weeks before. Maybe he is just bored because he just stays home and has no other girlfriends.

May I suggest to leave his cousin alone and indulge himself in other things? As you mentioned, the female population in the Philippines is greater than that of the male. He can also make his lesson plans earlier. We can never tell if one of his students has a sister looking for a boyfriend of his classification. Otherwise, he can go to sports. I am also a sports fanatic so I can say there are many beautiful women I meet because of sports.

I am not a perfect guy who hasn't had a problem about girls. I am just trying to tell him that just because he can't be with his cousin, it's already the end of the world. I think he is old enough to know what is right and what is wrong.

He is an educator and he must set a good example to his students, who look up to him as their second father. Be optimistic, otherwise you might end up in a deeper problem than what you are having now.

ROMMEL

Thank you, *hijo*, for your wise words. It is timely. I have just been informed of three other cases with the same problem, and they ignore the Family Code.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

Alabang Ladies' fund-raiser to benefit Elsie Gaches Foundation

IN LINE with its commitment of helping the less privileged members of the community it serves, the new Outback Restaurant in Alabang will hold a by-invitation-only Charity Night on May 7 together with the Alabang Ladies' International Group for the benefit of the Elsie Gaches Foundation for Handicapped Children and Abused Women. The fund-raising activity is a tradition observed by Outback's over 600 branches in the world. The restaurant will be open to the public starting on May 8.

Outback Alabang is a free-standing structure reminiscent of Outback's branches in the United States. It is conveniently located beside the Ayala Alabang Town Center and offers guests free ample parking space.

"Now our guests from the area need not travel far to enjoy the Outback dining experience. Our restaurant will serve the neighboring villages and offices in the area," Outback Alabang managing partner Donald Tenorio said.

Outback Alabang will be open for dinner only from Monday to Saturday, starting at 4 p.m. and for lunch and dinner on Sunday, from 11 a.m.

The 190-seater branch comes with Outback's trademark Australian-inspired memorabilia and aboriginal art, blond woods and cozy lighting that offer diners the perfect venue for hanging out with family and friends.

A wide array of high quality and great-tasting Auss'm tucker (food) are offered on the menu to satisfy one's taste and budget headlined by its quality steak selections made from the highest quality Australian and USDA grain-fed beef.

Outback Restaurant's concept derives from the rugged, rural areas of Australia. The successful dining chain was founded by Chris Sullivan, Robert Basham and Timothy Gannon who were inspired by the sprawling, rustic country. With corporate offices in Tampa, Florida Outback Restaurant's phenomenal growth has spawned global expansion amid tight competitions in the rapidly expanding casual dining, themed restaurant arena.

In the Philippines, Outback's branches in Glorietta 4 in Makati City, Libis in Quezon City and Alabang Town Center are owned and managed by Bistro Holdings Corp.

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SENATORIAL candidate Bobby Tañada and son Toby take a breather from the campaign for an afternoon with Gabrielle and Noah.

His father's son

(From page C1)

unique and, for another, people kept misspelling and mispronouncing it. However, on the morning of Bobby's birthday on Aug. 13, 1964 a second Tañada boy was born. "I guess he was left with no other choice," says Toby, who was christened Wigberto Tañada Jr.

Like his older brother, father and grandfather before him, Toby is a lawyer who works for the family firm. "We were never forced to go into something we didn't want to do but I guess the early exposure to the legal profession played a role in our decisions to go into law."

The younger Tañada, like his father, is highly articulate but reserved. He ponders the question and chooses his words very carefully, much like his Tatay whom he says studies all the issues from every angle before taking a stand. "His consistency on the issues close to his heart is what I admire most in him. Issues such as the coco levy or the GATT-WTO (General Agreement on Tarriff and Trade-World Trade Organization) are those that affect the greater majority and he is uncompromising on his stand on these issues."

Parenting style

Toby has been married for the last seven years to Marla Moran and is father to Gabrielle, 5 and Noah, 1½. He says his Tatay's parenting style had always been an informal one. "He's like a friend who's easy to approach. We share ideas and he readily responds." Favorite memories from childhood were those when father and son would play tennis or go jogging together. "He would also be always present during the father-son activities at the Ateneo (grade school)." Sundays are sacred at the Tañada household as it is when the whole clan gets together and they spend the day either at their grandparents' farm in Novaliches or the house in Tagaytay. "I guess that's why we are very close to our first cousins," Toby explains.

All four Tañada children—Erin, Toby, Marites and Trina—and mom Zeny play an active role in their Tatay's campaign. "Today's electorate is a much more enlightened one." Toby says. Comparing the 1986 campaign to 2001, Tañada says this, "Cory magic back then was very strong. So many people just didn't like any of the officials from the previous administration. Nowadays, a good segement of the population has turned cynical toward elections and politicians. They think that no matter what they do, who they vote for, nothing will really change." However, Toby is quick to add that he has quite been impressed by the knowledge of some of the people he has talked to on the campaign trail. "They have become very aware of the issues, much more well informed."

Loosening up

Exhausting but fun is how Toby describes the entire campaign."You get to go around the country and discover a lot of really beautiful sites. I remember this four-hour trip from Tacloban (Leyte) to Guian (Samar) which was rough road practically the entire way but wow, the view of the sea and the coastal towns was something else."

The biggest pressure on the campaign trail, Toby says, has been "trying to stretch the limited resources as far as they can go. It's a good thing there are many who feel Tatay is needed in the Senate and that the Philippines needs him. They have been very helpful in the campaign."

> Toby Tañada has been witness to his dad's loosening up during this campaign; on the stage at one rally, Serge Osmeña, who had been dancing with Klaudia Koronel, turned her over to Bobby Tañada for a dance. '*Para sa bayan*,' said Bobby who promptly danced with the sexy star

As a candidate, his father, Toby says, has "loosened up." "In the past he used to say—if you have something good to say, the media will come to you—but nowadays, that's not exactly how it is. Tatay is the *politiko na hindi politiko* but now he has become more open to ideas and experiments. He listens to his friends who are media practitioners when they give suggestions, for instance, like when they tell him that he should move his arms more." Toby says grinning

He relates one campaign when his Tatay found himself dancing with sexy actress Klaudia Koronel which was uncharacteristic Bobby Tañada. "Tatay said that Serge Osmeña had been dancing with her onstage and suddenly he brought her to him. Ever the gentleman, Bobby Tañada simply stood up and said, "*Para sa bayan.*"

No pressure, just a goal

Toby is proud of his father's track record and the issues that he has stood for. "Those who voted for him in the past were satisfied with his performance." Because they work together in close proximity, he also adds that he has seen the way his father studies and prepares before taking a stand. "He's very, very thorough." The younger Tañada also thinks that his Tatay's being a nationalist is a very strong point.

"Tatay feels that there is a great need for the Filipino people to have a sense of pride in being Filipino." Considering the events of the previous week, national pride is certainly a badly needed shot in the arm.

When asked if he felt any pressure at all being a Tañada, coming from a long line of men known for their integrity and service to the country, Toby says that there has never been any pressure to go into public service. "I am just grateful that I have examples to follow and that is a goal I constantly have for myself—to try to approximate the kind of service that Tatay and Lolo contributed to our country." Words well spoken—like father, like son.

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Upstaged by everyone's favorite 'Mare'

CHITO VECINA

(From page C1)

in the "The Vagina Monologues," Tami chose to join her mom on the campaign trail.

Articulate and ebullient like her mom, Tami didn't escape the attention of *Mareng* Winnie's campaign organizers, who saw in her an ideal link to Winnie's bid to reach out to more voters—especially yuppies, students and, yes, the (supply your own adjective) masses.

Alas, Tami soon discovered that acting is a totally different animal from campaigning. She joined her mom and the rest of the People Power Coalition candidates twice in February before that nugget of truth dawned on her.

Assuming various characters on stage poses no problem to Tami. But advancing someone else's ideas, no matter how good they are, before thousands of strangers, is quite a challenge. Even when CNN featured her with colleagues Monique Wilson and Dulce Aristorenas, Tami mostly kept quiet and allowed them to do the talking.

"Believe it or not," she says, "I feel more nervous when I know a member of the family is out there in the audience."

Language deficit

Another realization hit Tami on the campaign trail: with her limited facility with the vernacular language, compared to her, Pilita Corrales, Martin Nievera and Joyce Jimenez are fluent. Let's put it this way—no monologues in Filipino for her.

"My Filipino sounds *pilit* (awkward)," the Monsods' first-born says. "My mom has so much faith in me, but the problem is my distinct twang. Rather than reach out to more people, I might end up alienating or turning them off."

Not her fault really. Because of their jobs, Christian and Winnie Monsod lived in the United States in the early 1960s before returning to the Philippines in 1969.

The first three daughters—Tami, Toby and Tippy—were born there. Tami was only 7 when she first came to the Philippines. She finished elementary and high school at the Assumption.

Just when she was starting to feel comfortable speaking Filipino, she went back to the US to study at Mt. Holyoke College in Massachusetts.

"I majored in economics like my mom," she says, pursing her lips and rolling her eyes like our favorite *Mare*. "It was a practical decision I've never regretted, but my real love is acting."

She also took up acting lessons in the US. Like her mother, Tami enjoys teaching. She first taught economics for two years at the Assumption before moving to International School, where she has been conducting acting classes among high school kids for nearly 16 years now.

Only brother Ian and youngest sister Trina were born here. All of them, says Tami, are involved in various ways to help take Winnie to her rightful place in the Senate. The task of assisting in the campaign fell squarely on Trina, who recently graduated from the Ateneo law school.

"Trina belonged to the top 10 of her class," says the doting *ate*. "She also communicates well in both Filipino and English."

Trina has postponed reviewing for the bar to join PPC bets in the hustings. While Winnie, for instance, campaigned somewhere in the North, Trina was busy explaining her mom's platform of providing Filipinos quality education and fighting corruption somewhere down South.

Overwhelming response

From one actress to another (yes, Winnie used to act in school plays), did Tami ask her mom to change her style for the campaign stage?

"Actually, I don't remember anymore," Tami admits. "She's okay as she is. She's also a teacher so I told her to first go down to the level of her audience before leading them to where she wants to take them."

Tami has chosen a more grassroots approach, sticking mom's huge campaign posters on her car, distributing Winnie's leaflets, stickers and posters first to her fellow teachers and later to people on the street. Their response has so far been overwhelming.

> Fresh from her well-received performance in 'The Vagina Monologues,' Tami Monsod lets Mom take centerstage

Tamie's colleagues and students are even the ones asking her for extra campaign materials to distribute. Many of her foreign friends also give Winnie the thumbs up sign. Now, if only they could vote for her, too.

"What really touches me are the ordinary people who believe in my mom," says Tami. "They smile as soon as they learn I'm Winnie's daughter. They promise to vote for her because she's *makatao at maasahan*."

And this realization cuts across social strata. When Tami, for instance, went out to buy a pack of Marlboro Lights (a habit she has still to lick) at a *sari-sari* store, she took the chance to distribute her mom's pamphlets.

An old man approached Tami to share his thoughts. He turned out to be a World War II veteran. With virtually no support from both Philippine and American governments, he and his friends are pinning their hopes on the likes of Winnie Monsod to improve their lot. The man soon began to sob as he related his ordeal.

Tami could do little but listen, but she couldn't forget what the man said. More than feeling pity for him, she admired him for his guts and honesty. "He will do his best to campaign for my mom because she genuinely cares for the people," says Tami.

When she told her mom about this, Winnie merely listened and kept quiet. But knowing her, Tami is sure she'll look into this, among other concerns, whether she's elected or not.

"She may seem gregarious on TV, but my mom is really an introspective person," says Tami. "My mom is very passionate in what she believes in. She can be quite outspoken if she wants to."

Soft on the inside

And how is *Mareng* Winnie as a mother?

She's warm, supportive and overprotective, says Tami. Both Winnie and Christian lavish their children with praise. Contrary to her stern image on TV, Winnie is a softie at heart. "She could be quite demonstrative," adds Tami.

Of course, the two women have had their share of "run-ins." Their misunderstandings came about soon after Tami decided to fly the coop.

"I got tired of all her questions," recalls Tami. "She was so worried about me, but now I understand. She just didn't want any of us to get hurt. Now it's the other way around. I now worry for her and the rigors and dangers of the campaign. But I take comfort in the fact that she's strong and has no rabid enemies out to do her harm."

These same qualities, the daughter claims, will make for a good senator.

"My mom really knows her stuff," she insists. "She has a solid record of accomplishments as an economist and nationalist. Best of all, she will push and fight to turn her visions into reality."

And what if Winnie wins? Of course, Tami and the entire family would be ecstatic. "My mom would be where she wants to be," she says.

But Tami sees no drastic changes in her lifestyle as a result. Well, except perhaps in her driving. One certainly can't afford to be rude on the road with a pair of huge green posters with images of a feisty woman stuck on your car.

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SOFTIE AT HEART. Winnie Monsod

> The wife of Mindoro Rep. Ding Quintos is a devotee of the Blessed Virgin Mary; it is her faith that has seen her through the violent and politically motivated death of two sons

Strength from faith

BY MONINA MERCADO

AGNES Quintos felt unusually suffused with love. It was early Saturday evening, Dec. 13, 1997, in Mamburao, Mindoro. She sat in the car between her two sons, Paul, 31, and Michael, 26, both tall and handsome young men. She was totally aware of them, totally loving them and totally happy for them, just as they were right there at that moment.

She teased Michael who was a barangay captain. Soon, she said, he would be *ninong* to the whole town, considering the invitations he was getting. Michael smiled but did not reply, she recalled. He only looked ahead into the distance. She turned to Paul and said nothing to him but looked at him as if seeing him for the first time. Her heart was full.

Agnes had seven sons and five daughters, all adults by then. She savored close moments with them, but this occasion with Paul and Michael seemed more intense and, as she recalled it "very supernatural." She did not have many moments like this, a joyous awareness close to ecstasy, and thanked God for it. In particular, she turned to the Blessed Virgin Mary and said to her: "I know that you are here with us."

They had just been to the evening Mass and were being driven home. Her husband Ricardo, the boys' father, sat in the front seat beside the driver. Soon they were at the Hilltop, their home in Barangay Talamanan, and sat down to supper with Paul and Michael. Then the boys left to attend a birthday party in town.

Less than an hour later, Paul and Michael were bullet-riddled corpses. In the emergency room of the Mamburao hospital, Agnes was once again between them. She did not know whom to embrace first. But whether it was Paul or Michael that she hugged close, their blood drenched her shirt. They had been shot in the face and the chest, Michael receiving more bullets. His face was contorted in pain. Paul seemed only asleep but was no less bloody.

Five men are now in the Quezon City jail, awaiting sentencing for this double murder. Although based on a confession, their trial has been postponed repeatedly. The apparent motive: political conflict. The Quintoses, in particular Ricardo, the boys' father, were perceived as upstarts and obstructions to entrenched political establishment in Mamburao, the capital of Mindoro

Social concern

Since 1960, Ricardo (Ding) Quintos had been trying to make his Mamburao property productive. His mother, Soledad Veloso Quintos, gave it to him and supported his efforts to make it into a poultry and livestock farm. For this endeavor, he received the award for farm management in 1969 from the Jaycees Ten Outstanding Young Men citations. "He was nominated by an unknown farmer from the province. I am married to a farmer," Agnes says proudly.

The property has great potentials, encompassing orchards and a lovely stretch of white-sand beach, but from the beginning, Ricardo saw it as an opportunity to provide livelihood. Brought up, educated and based with his family in Manila, Ding's heart is nonetheless immersed in Mindoro. He sees its tremendous potential as a production site, agricultural as well as industrial but even more urgent to him is the need to improve the lot of its population, largely consisting of the poor.

"Ding wants Mindoro to become the food basket of Southern Metro Manila and Luzon because most of the agricultural lands in the Calabarzon area have already been converted into other uses and sourcing food from Mindanao remains very expensive because of transportation and handling costs," she explains. Mindoro is just two hours away by boat from Batangas City.

Agnes too has grown to share Ding's social concern for Mindoro. A lesser woman would have renounced it as a longtime rival for her husband's time and attention. Now that it is as well "drenched with the blood of my sons," Agnes is convinced of what a leadership dedicated to service can do to help the poor. "Your only concern must be to give service," she reminded Michael when he ran and won as barangay chair in 1997.

Her life today is not what Agnes had dreamed for herself. The youngest daughter of the eight children of Jose de la Torre and Romana Alcala of Sariaya, Quezon, she grew up in a quiet, genteel and pious home. Her father, a pharmacist and land-owner, attended the first Mass at cock's crow in the parish church.

As a child she would wake up to see her mother praying. "My mother lived Our Lady's simple ordinary life of work in the home done with care and love," Agnes says. Neither her father nor her mother said much to Agnes about devotion to Our Lady but she imbibed it from them as, in the words of Gerard Manley Hopkins, "the air we breathe."

Agnes went to school in Sariaya among the Franciscan nuns. Thinking to be one of them as a missionary doctor, she enrolled in the pre-med course at the University of Santo Tomas. But within six months of the first year, she met Ding Quintos. He was everything that her genteel parents had warned her about in a Manila boy: wealthy, wise in the ways of the world and, worse of all, driving a brilliant tangerine Studebaker. But the moment Ding met Agnes, she was the only one who mattered to him. She downgraded her college course from medicine to a general liberal arts program and Ding completed his studies in commerce in San Beda.

A dozen and one

Directly after college, they were married in 1958: she was 20 and he was 23. Ding's mother, a wealthy businesswoman, was delighted. She gave them a house. She encouraged them to have many children. "I will take care of all of them." By 1975, Agnes and Ding had 13 children, one of whom, Victor, died in infancy. They were Diana, Marcus, Bettina, Carmen, Ricardo Jr., Isabel, Paul, Robert, Ana, Michael, Luis and Gina.

Many times, Agnes was left alone to take care of her children because Ding was busy in Mindoro. "I have gone to the hospital just by myself to have a baby," she recalls. Although she had a complete domestic staff, there was only one *yaya* who took care of the current baby. Agnes always took care of the newborn. She trained her older children to take care of their younger siblings. "I was blessed with happy, well-behaved children," Agnes says. The boys went to Xavier School, the girls to Poveda.

On Sundays, Agnes took them to Mass at the Manila Cathedral, all her children seated in one pew. "Are they all yours?" people would ask Agnes, who was tall, slim and smart-looking. Each evening, she gathered her children to say the Rosary, just as her parents had done.

It was a conscious and deliberate effort on her part to raise her children as devotees of Our Lady. She and Ding had deepened in this devotion to Our Lady even more as they learned to live it in Opus Dei to which they belong. It is this devotion that has helped them to live with their sons' tragic death. "I was only concerned about their souls," said Agnes. "I immediately entrusted them to Our Lord." This same devotion has shielded them from vengefulness.

Through bruising, blistering and tragic political opposition, Ding Quintos is the congressman for Mindoro and is running for governor in this month's election.

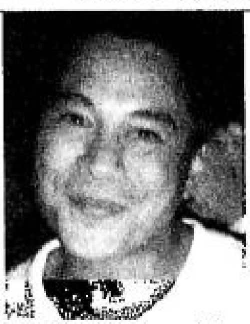
AGNES with husband, Rep. Ricardo Quintos

BETOY JOHNSON

JET Ral

JOEY Mead

STELLA Ruiz


RACE car driver Jojo Silverio

A FERRARI parked outside Stars

TINA Pamintuan and Ms Montinola

PMAP at your service

TEESAW

Raul Teehankee

TOP male and female models of the Philippines dressed up in summer gear and served as waiters and waitresses at Stars a week ago. Their goal was to raise money for their Professional Models Association of the Phils.' (PMAP) fund to upgrade the standards of the modeling industry.

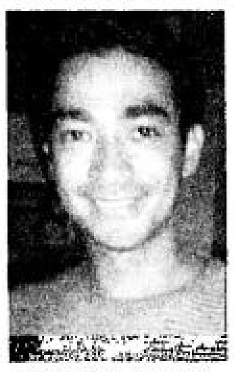
Even though the industry still has a long way to go in comparison to New York, Tokyo and Paris, the awareness of fashion as a main contributor to trade and industry cannot be underestimated. Just look at the growing number of local boutiques, glossy magazines with witty advertising layouts, quality television commercials and fashion shows.

PMAP also wants it known they are around to be of service to the fashion industry.

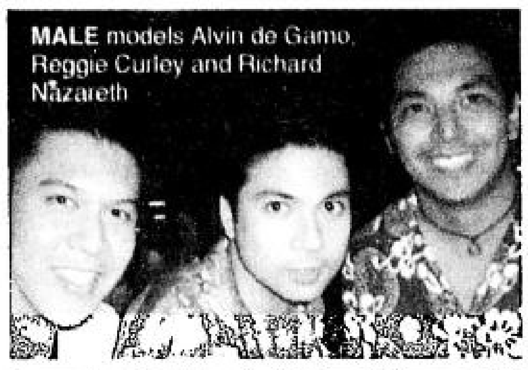
LILIBETH Mendoza

FEMALE pilot and model, Gemith Gemparo

AMANDA Griffith and Rhott Eala


ACTOR Raymond Bagatsing

MARTIN Nievera and Pia Marquez


MALE models Alvin de Gamo, Reggie Curley and Richard Nazareth

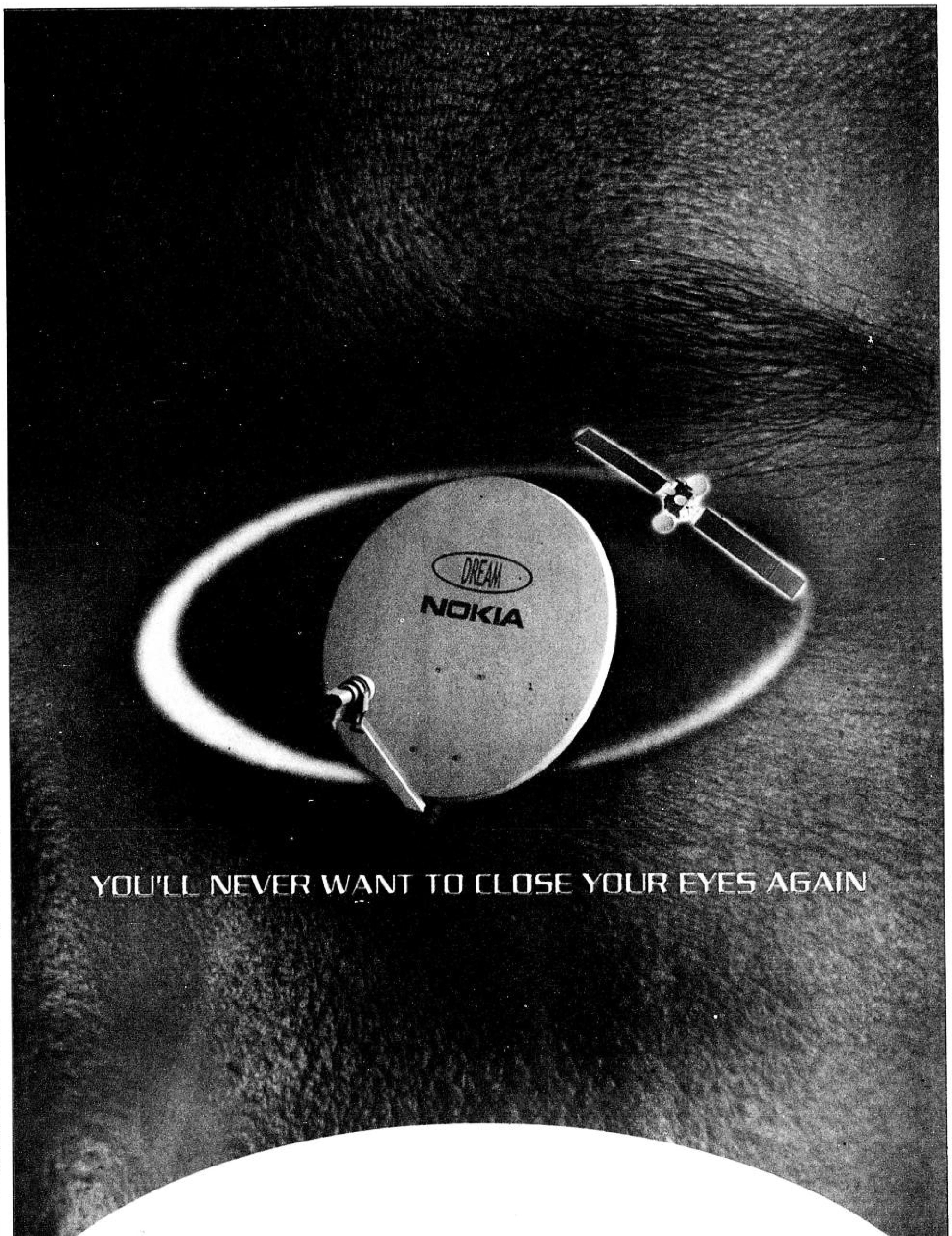
TWIN doctors, Romeo and Arnel Nuguid

WILMA Doesnt

JEFFREY Manalang

VINA Morales

NINA Ricci Alagao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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Weddings, Engagements

THE NEWLYWEDS. Neil "Jun-Jun" Tupas Jr. and Yvonne Angeli Lee-Tupas

TUPAS-LEE

Campus romance has happy ending

Story on page D6

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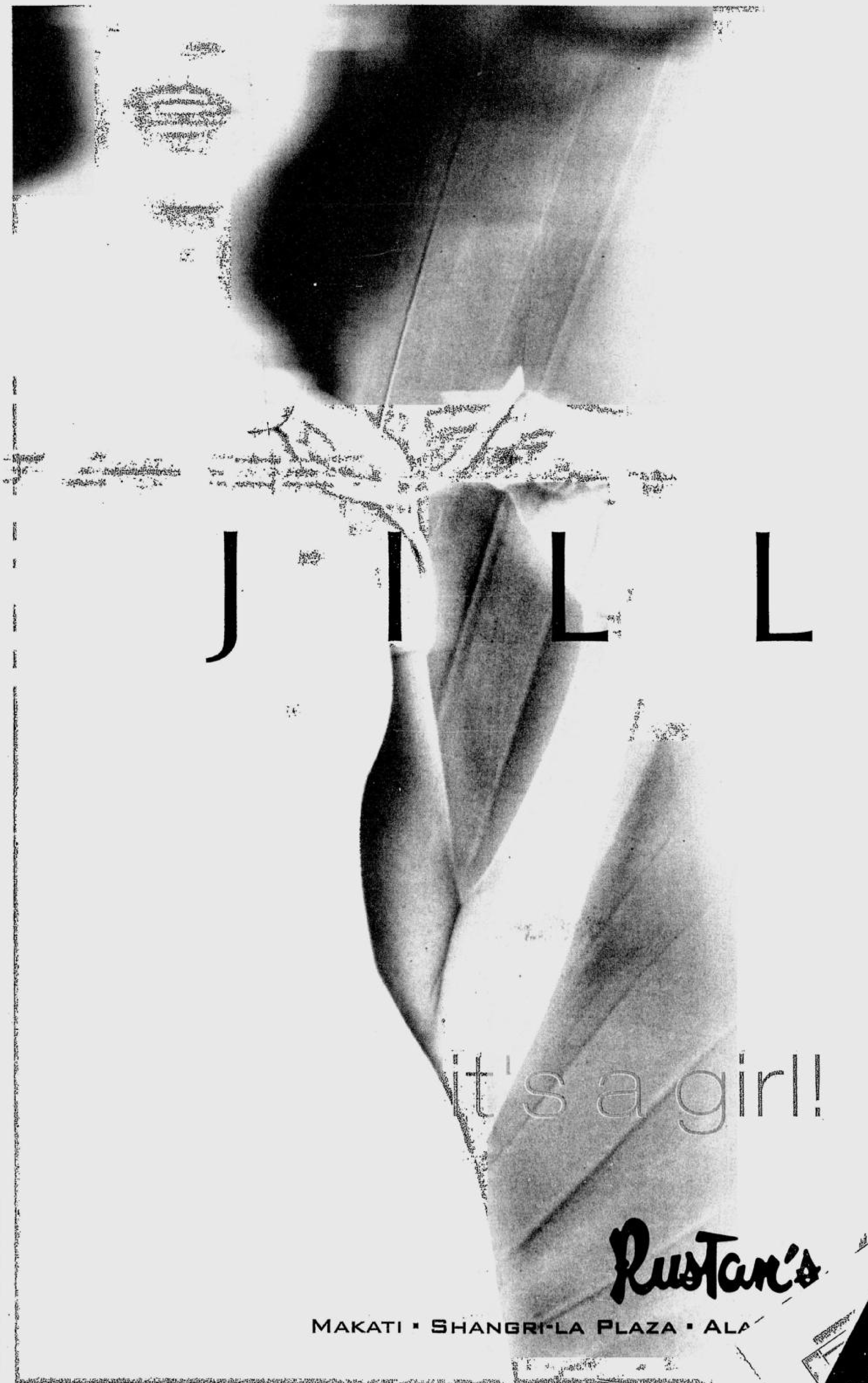
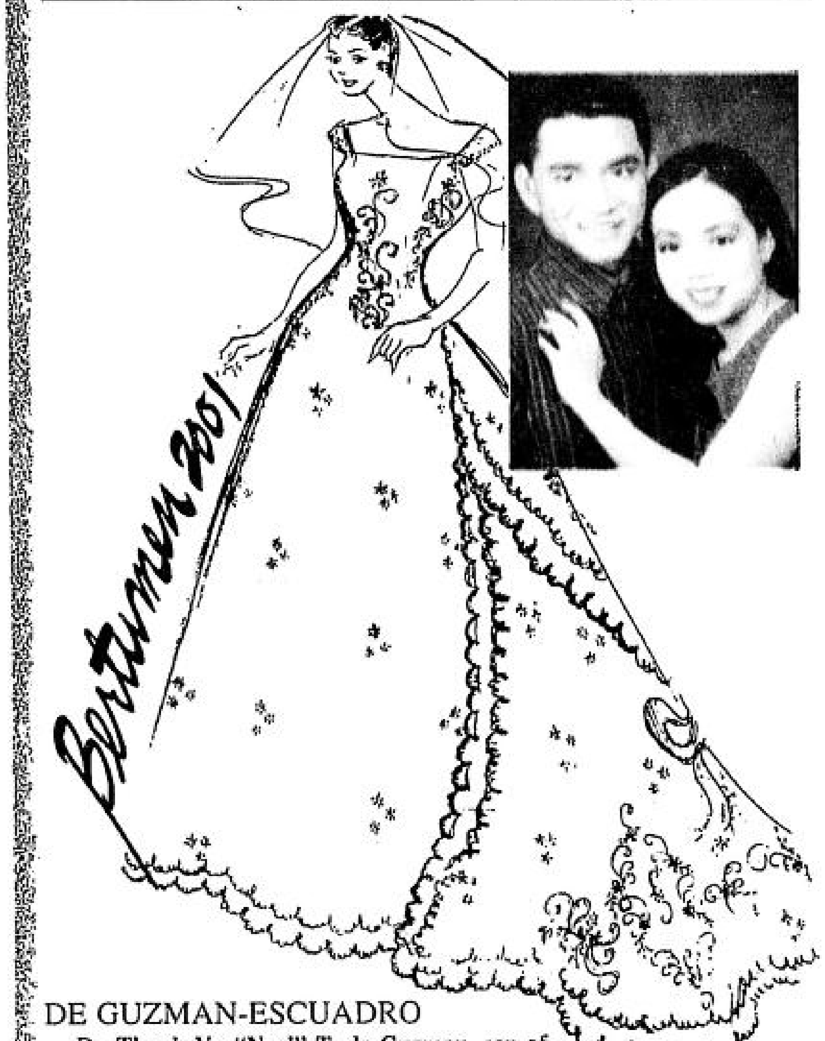


Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.



DE GUZMAN-ESCUADRO

Dr. **Thanh Vu "Noel" T. de Guzman**, son of engineer **Nunilon** and **Thuthuy de Guzman** of Peñaranda, Nueva Ecija, and **Reina Elizabeth Escuadro**, daughter of **Fernando Sr.** and **Norberta Escuadro** of Cabanatuan City, will exchange "I dos" on May 12 at Dambana Nang Ina Ng Laging Saklolo, Cabanatuan City. Reception will be held at the Grand Victoria Clubhouse.

The bride will wear a *piña* silk gown by **Cecilio Bertumin** of Saro Fashion Creation, Provident Village, Marikina City.

VS and F Classic Food International will provide the food. Photo and video by Emil Buencamino's Photography. Floral Arrangement by Phi-CaGoRe's Simply the Best Flowers of Cabanatuan City. Tina Pasamba's String Minstrels of Manila will provide the music. Stage and TV actor-turned-wedding coordinator **Phillip R. Gomez** will be the emcee.

DEL ROSARIO SILVER ANNIVERSARY

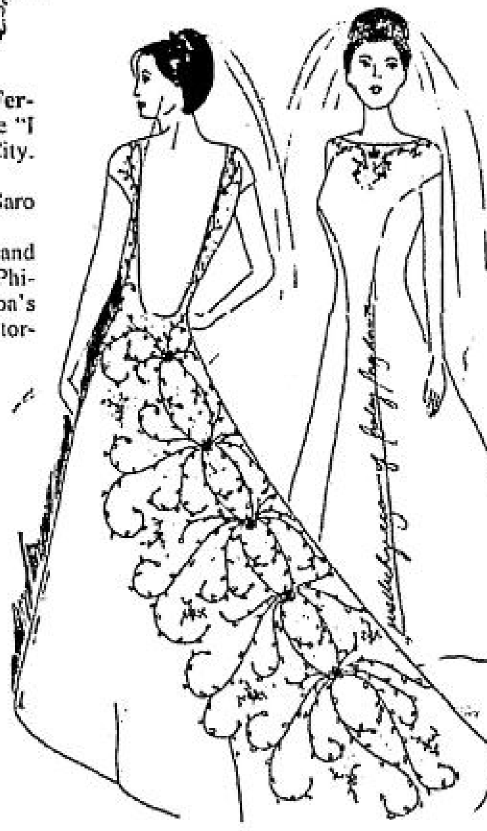
Dr. Oscar **Almirante del Rosario and Nanette Villanueva del Rosario** will celebrate their silver wedding anniversary on May 22.

COLAYCO-LEONOR

Lia Leonor, daughter of **Domingo** and **Nene Leonor**, exchanged vows with **Jaycee Colayco**, son of **Jimmy** and **Josie Colayco**, on May 5 at the Central de Azucarera Chapel in Nasugbu, Batangas. Reception followed at Ginger Hill in Matabungkay.

ACOSTA-LIM

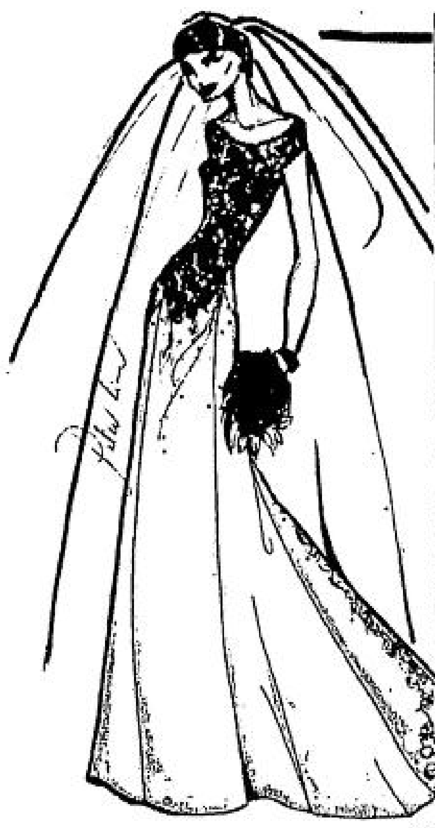
Michael L. Acosta, son of **Jose** and **Julieta Acosta**, will wed **Christina P. Lim**, daughter of **Samuel Sr.** and **Aurelia Lim**, on May 15 at Tangalan Chapel, Alicia, Zamboanga del Sur. Rev. Fr. **Julito A. Cabatuan** will officiate. The bride will wear an **Adiwila O. Lim** creation.

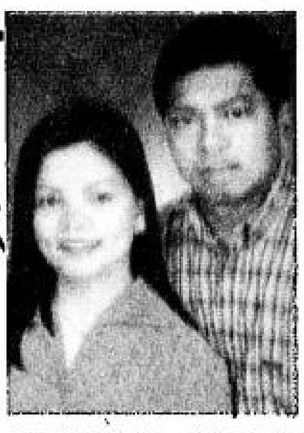


CRESCINI-AVERGONZADO

Therence P. Avergonzado, daughter of **Guillermo** and **Soledad P. Avergonzado**, will exchange "I dos" with **Rodrigo A. Crescini**, son of **Antonio** and **Conchita A. Crescini**, on June 3 at Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, Rosario Complex, San Pedro, Laguna. Reception will follow at the Stone Crest Clubhouse. Wedding coordinators are **Catherina Yaneza** and **Kris Arcana** of Balay's

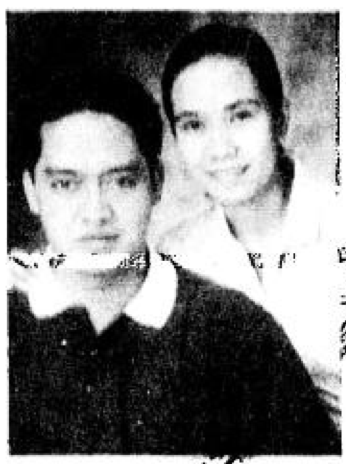
The bride will wear a **Rollie H. Graza** creation in ecru shantung silk accentuated with intricate beadwork.

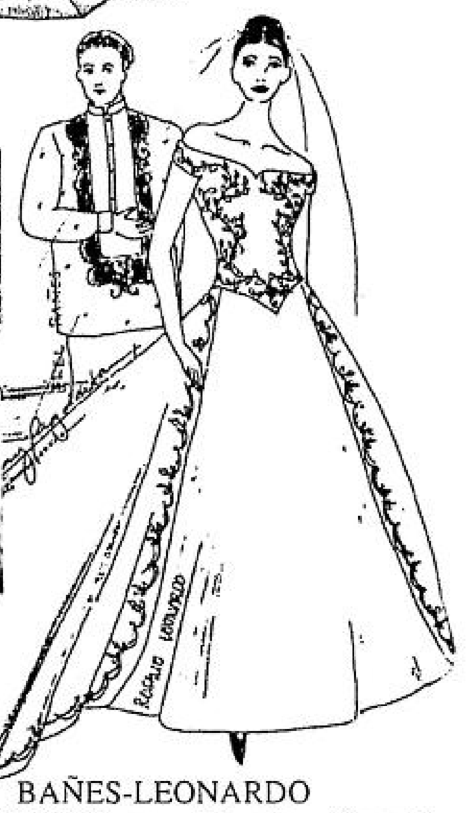




CUSTODIO-GABRIEL

Michael V. Custodio, son of **Irineo** and **Angelita Custodio**, will marry **Aimee S. Gabriel**, daughter of **Adriano** and **Carmen Gabriel**, on May 12 at the Ilustrado Courtyard, Intramuros, Manila. **Peter Lim** designed the bridal gown in duchess satin with heavy lace on the bodice and train. It is traced with pearls, cut beads and stones.

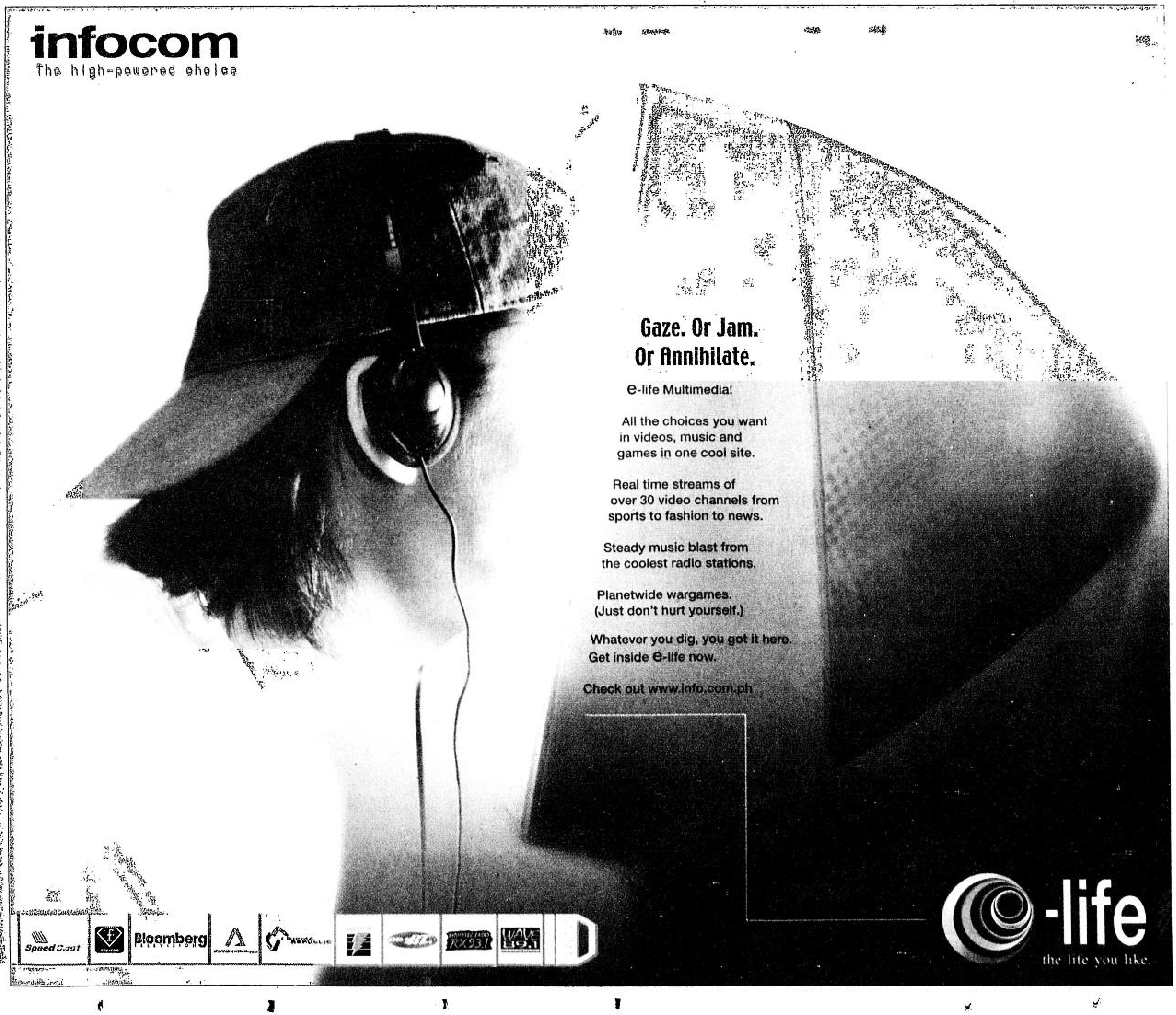




BAÑES-LEONARDO

Erel T. Bañes, son of **Eugenio and Evangelina I. Bañes**, will wed **Rosalie G. Leonardo**, daughter of **Artemio** and **Clarita G. Leonardo**, on May 9 at San Isidro Parish Church.

The bride will wear an off-shoulder princess-cut gown with ballroom skirt and a detachable cathedral train made of satin, fully beaded with glass beads and rhinestones. The bride's gown and those of her entourage were created by **Rollie H. Graza** of Balay Pagdaitan.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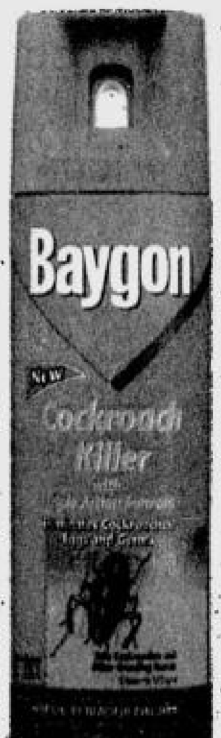

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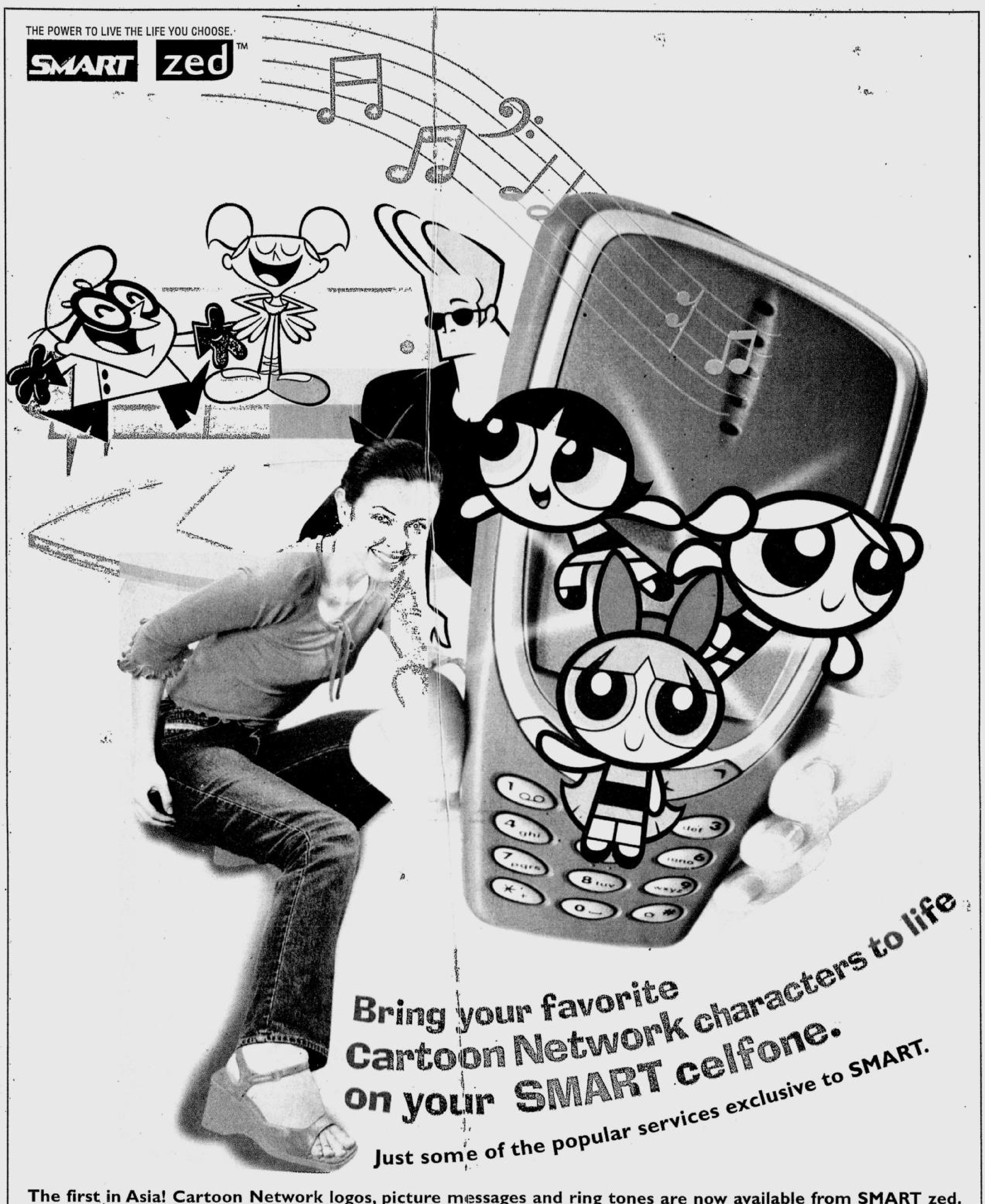

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THE NEWLYWEDS with the members of their entourage (from left): Jovi Jane Tugbang with mom Lani Tugbang, Irene Marie Chan-Dytoc, Genevieve Gozum, Beatrice Chong, Aisha Causing, Stephanie Uy, Karol Causing, maid of honor Claire Lee, best man Capt. Raul Tupas, Victor Paolo Tupas, Nico Balleza, Dodge Dillague, Chuckie Lazarte, Donald Lee, Niel Tupas III and Lohel Tupas

WITH THEIR parents (from left): Former Iloilo representative Niel D. Tupas and Mayor Myrna Causing Tupas and Dr. Yvonne Crisostomo Lee and Juan B. Lee

Campus romance has happy ending

TEN-AND-A-HALF years ago, Niel "Jun-Jun" Tupas Jr. and Yvonne Angeli Lee found themselves seated beside each other in a political science class at UP Diliman. Gel, as Yvonne Angeli is known to friends, had arrived late for the first meeting of the semester and taken the last vacant seat in the room, which happened to be beside Jun-Jun.

She asked him what the professor had asked the students to do. He gave monosyllabic, almost curt, answers. She vowed never to sit beside her *suplado* classmate again. A pity, she had to admit, because she found him cute and smart. Little did she know that Jun-Jun found her pretty and smart as well and was discreetly watching her during class.

WITH THE PRINCIPAL sponsors (from left): Mayor Jeanette Balasico, Milda Lazarte, sister-in-law of Sen. Tessie Aquino-Oreta standing in for the senator, Mary Ann Ng, Dr. Charito Lapus, Donna Causing, Mila Drilon, Sen. Franklin Drilon, Leonilo Causing standing in for Rep. Augusto Syjuco, former MMDA chair Jejomar Binay, James Torres, former PCGG chair Magdangal Elma, GMA 7 president lawyer Felipe Gozon and Mayor Nepatali Salcedo

JUN-JUN with law school buddies (from left): Jigs Coronel, Albert Ocampo and Fernando Ocampo

Jun-Jun had the opportunity to get to know her better when the class divided into groups for a project. He asked a friend to convince Gel to transfer to his group. But the semester ended and a year passed before Jun-Jun finally asked Gel out. In July 1990, Jun-jun used the pretext of needing help in finding a particular library inside the campus. Instead of the library, they ended up in a restaurant in Katipunan. It was their very first date. They were inseparable since, both falling in love for the first time.

Both graduating magna cum laude—Gel with a journalism degree and Jun-Jun with a degree in political science—they proceeded to the UP College of Law. They graduated among the top of their class, passed the 1998 bar examinations, and now work in the same Makati law firm.

Ten-and-a-half years later, on Dec. 19, 2000, Jun-Jun and Gel finally exchanged wedding vows at the Manila Cathedral. Gel was a lovely bride in a beautiful Patis Tesoro wedding gown made of pure silk. Dad Juan Lee and mom, Dr. Yvonne Crisostomo Lee, walked her down the dreamy flower- and tulle-bedecked aisle with dramatic candelabras mounted on pedestals courtesy of *ninang* Mary Ann Ng. Jun-Jun was dashing in an intricately embroidered *piña* barong as he nervously waited with his parents, former congressman and Iloilo gubernatorial bet Niel D. Tupas and Barotac Viejo Mayor Myrna Causing Tupas, for his bride.

The principal sponsors were led by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and First Gentleman Mike Arroyo. The other sponsors were Sen. Franklin Drilon and wife Mila, Sen. Teresa Aquino-Oreta, GMA 7 president Felipe L. Gozon, former Presidential Commission on Good Government chair Magdangal Elma, former Metropolitan Manila Development Authority chair Jejomar Binay, Rep. Augusto Syjuco, James Torres and the groom's uncle, Mayor Neptali Salcedo, and aunts Milda Lazarte, Donna Causing, Dr. Charito Lapus and Mayor Jeannette Balasico.

Fr. Robert Reyes, a longtime counselor of Jun-Jun and Gel since their days at UP, officiated the Mass.

Reception followed at the Pandanggo Ballroom of The Manila Hotel. About 300 of the couple's closest friends and relatives attended. Larry Natividad of Alexandra's Petals & Foliage transformed the ballroom into a virtual garden, complete with picturesque gates and a fountain. Guests had fun as special couples were chosen to participate in a "kissing game" with Jun-Jun's and Gel's married friends demonstrating how they would kiss their spouses in specific situations. The newlyweds then imitated each kiss to the delight of the guests.

Among the highlights of the evening was a video presentation documenting the couple's love affair through the years. It was a gift from Jun-Jun's bosom friend, "Debate" director Dodge Dillague. Gel's sister, who was the maid of honor, Claire Lee, wowed everyone with her mean and hot Latin mix dance performance with good friend Dave Devilles. The groom's brother and best man, Capt. Raul Tupas, and *ninong* Senator Drilon, made touching toasts for the couple.

For wedding souvenirs, the couple gave away clear glass vases on a gold fiberglass base accented with the couple's initials in silver metal. They were made by interior designer Hector Alvarez. The couple and their guests danced to the music of Jun Martinez and his band. Noted photographer Alex Van Hagen captured on film precious moments of the wedding day. Overall coordination was done by Weddings by Victoria. Jun-Jun and Gel honeymooned in exotic Bali.

JUN-JUN shaking hands with *ninang* President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Others in the photo are (from left): Gel's mom, Dr. Yvonne C. Lee; *ninong* First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, *ninang* Mila Drilon, Gel's dad, Juan B. Lee, and Mariano de Joya Jr.

WITH THEIR UP law school friends (from left): Jigs Coronel, Chat Garrido-Ocampo, GG Grandea, Albert Ocampo, Jo Maribojoc and Noreen Gocon

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SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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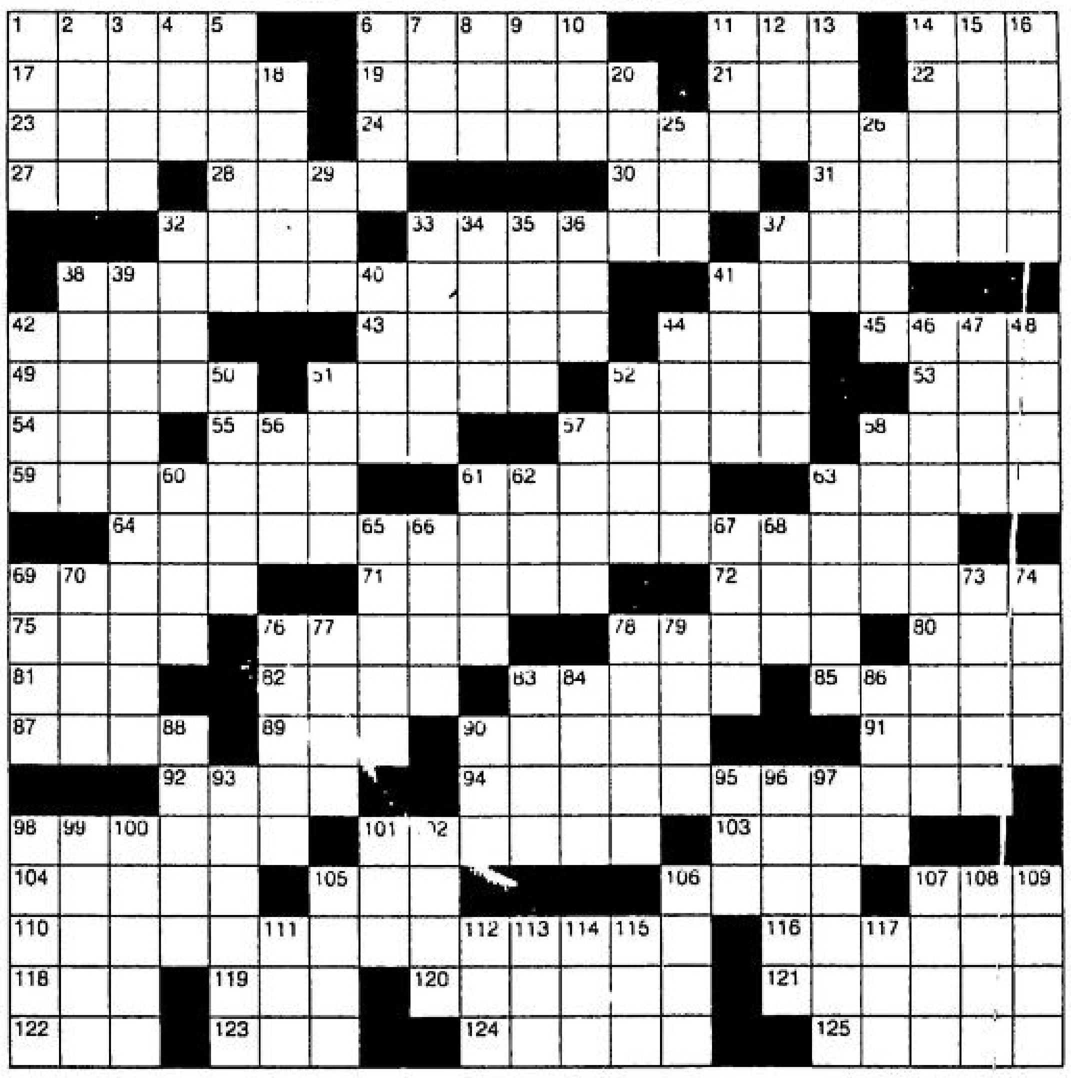

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37 Stir up
38 Speaker of remark
41 Carrey title start
42 Windmill part
43 Violinist Mischa
44 Singer Scaggs
45 Cabbage concoction
49 Aquatic animal
51 Bodybuilder Charles
52 "— Show" ('94 film)
53 Private pension
54 Robert of "Quincy, M.E."
55 Restive
57 Trumpeter Berigan
58 Explorer Hedin
59 '68 Tom Jones hit
61 Shatter
63 — suit
64 Part 2 of remark
69 Raid
71 Sinuous dances
72 Jihad
75 Verve
76 Posada of baseball
78 Thin porridge
80 Thurman of "The Avengers"
81 Deighton or Dawson
82 Blows away
83 Isaac's mom
85 Remove varnish
87 Lug
89 Morning moisture
90 Comic Sherman
91 "— It a Pity?" ('70 song)
92 Got older
94 Part 3 of remark
98 Yearned
101 Titania's hubby
103 "Java" man?
104 Tom of "Adam's Rib"
105 Woody herb
106 With 107 Down, "Chocolat" actress
107 Kimono closer
110 End of remark
116 Like some recordings
118 Out — limb
119 Gumshoe
120 Update a story
121 Ida of "The Sea Wolf"
122 Fashion monogram
123 Symbol of sturdiness
124 "Jane Eyre" character
125 Murcia mister

DOWN
1 Primer pooch
2 Forbidden
3 Summit
4 Kyser or Starr
5 Ornamental opening
6 Comic Joey
7 Wedding words
8 "Hulk" Ferrigno
9 SASE, e.g.
10 Mowry of "Sister, Sister"
11 Be in accord
12 Luau instrument
13 Rarely
14 Martin or McQueen
15 Actor Sorbo
16 What i.e. stands for
18 Hersey setting
20 Tizzy
25 Strive
26 Whittier's feet
29 Buddhist movement
32 Merriment
33 Beer storage?
34 Humorist Bombeck
35 Cry of concern
36 Dress size
37 Like a peach
38 Photo finish
39 Narrow-minded
40 One of the Marches
41 Rub out
42 Nullify
44 Swindle
46 Sausage type
47 Precinct
48 Lack
50 Bendix role
51 "— Breaky Heart" ('92 hit)
52 Wharf
56 Prepare to feather?
57 Seeks change?
58 Fluctuate
60 Tenor Kozlovsky
61 Peevishness
62 Genetic info
63 Vends
65 Flung
66 Warm embraces
67 "No dice!"
68 Farm tool
69 Crafter's cloth
70 Toast topper
73 — acid
74 All ears
76 Too experienced
77 Had bills
78 Bit of a beach
79 Be bombastic
83 Disparage
84 Palo —, CA
86 Cast
88 Scout rank
90 Presidential nickname
93 Trattoria treat
95 Heifer or hen
96 Last
97 Telescope sighting
98 Croce's Mr. Brown
99 "Hee Haw" host Buck
100 Mount Everest's locale
101 Absent
102 Grumpy guy
105 Singer Springfield
106 Alzado of football
107 See 106 Across
108 Pro — (free)
109 Perpetual lab assistant
111 Soho snack
112 PBS benefactor
113 Accounting abbr.
114 Tiny
115 "— of You" ('84 hit)
117 "Tarzan" extra

ANSWER ON PAGE D7

Fair has something for bride, debutante, even businessman

THE PENINSULA Manila, along with Rita Neri of The Wedding Store, will present "Events at The Pen" on May 17 and 18.

The two-day event will feature the best and most exclusive lifestyle, bridal and corporate events organizers and planners in the country. It will showcase a range of options for would-be brides and debutantes.

"Events at The Pen" will be highlighted with a by-invitation-only fashion-musical extravaganza on May 17. It will feature Mike de la Rosa for corporate wear, Frederick Peralta for evening fashions and Jose Salazar in the bridal portion, with some of the Philippines' leading orchestral and choral groups.

The two-day event will be the very first time that a Philippine hotel will serve as venue for a fair of this magnitude. Space will be allotted to showcase trendy gifts and giveaways that corporations and businessmen might want to give to their clients.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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NUPTIAL affairs at The Pen's The Upper Lobby and The Gallery will showcase the drama and joy of creating the perfect wedding.

Wedding package with the Hyatt touch

A BRIDAL fair dubbed "Fresh—Brides at the Hyatt" will be held at Hyatt Regency Manila on May 11-13 at the hotel's mezzanine level.

The program will feature the elements that make up a fabulous wedding, but promises to be different from the usual, with a range of novel ideas that not only enhance tradition, but make each wedding a more personalized and unique occasion.

As a teaser of an actual reception in the hotel, bouquets and garlands by its in-house florist, the 517 Flower Co. of Toni Parsons and Rustan's Flower Shop will welcome guests from the lobby up to the entire mezzanine area. Beautiful wedding gowns by top designers will add dazzle and prestige, while string ensembles provide a classical ambiance on certain hours.

Food-tasting of the hotel's specialties is expected to create more interest—more so since excellent fare is one of the strongest assets of Hyatt Regency Manila. Its new "Wedding Package" featuring enhanced menus and amenities will also be launched to enable guests to experience "the Hyatt touch." Function rooms will be dressed up according to actual themes offered by the hotel.

"Fresh—Brides at the Hyatt" will be launched with opening cocktails, open to the public for free on May 11, 6 p.m., at the Harana Ballroom. This will be highlighted by a fashion show of wedding ensembles by Rajo Laurel, currently the toast of Manila's elite for his exquisite creations. Call the Banquet Sales Office at 833-1234.

The three-day bridal fair is presented with Citibank-Cathay Pacific Visa and as an added attraction, various raffle prizes are in store for lucky visitors, including complimentary accommodations to popular honeymoon destinations in the country.

Mamma
Mutti Mom
swatch

TIME FOR MOM

Swatch's limited edition Mother's Day collection, Love Layers, comes with red, gold and pink embroidered hearts and flowers embedded in an exquisitely stitched fabric strap. A soft pink bezel around an orange accented face completes the tender look. It rests on a silk pillow inside a red and gold embroidered case. Now available at all Swatch Stores, Swatch kiosks and Gift Gate Stores in Metro Manila. Swatch is exclusively distributed by Gift Gate Inc.

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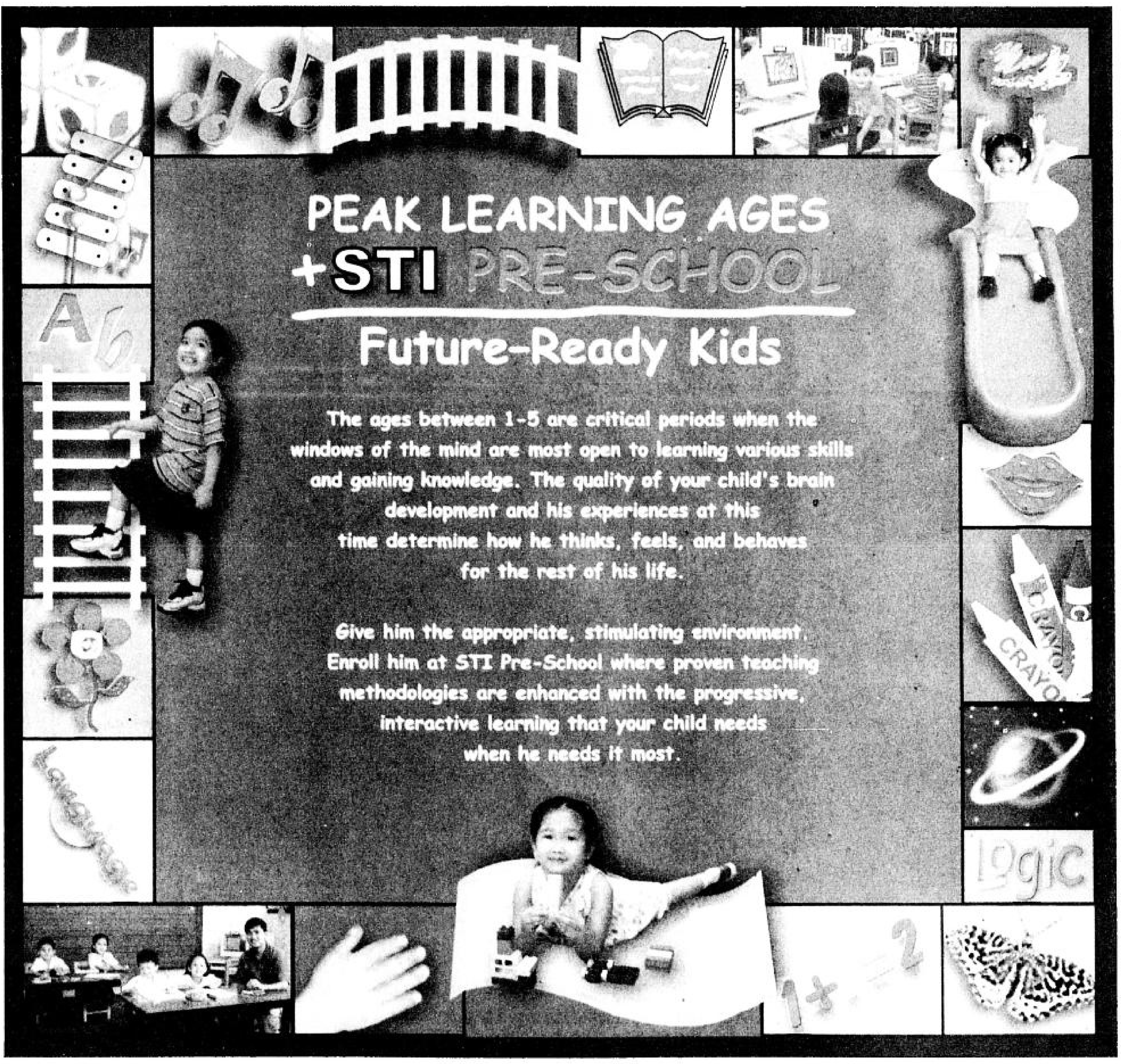

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MUST-GO-TO spa—Mandala Spa. One of the villas of the spa

Boracay offers pleasures even for landlubbers

By Anton San Diego

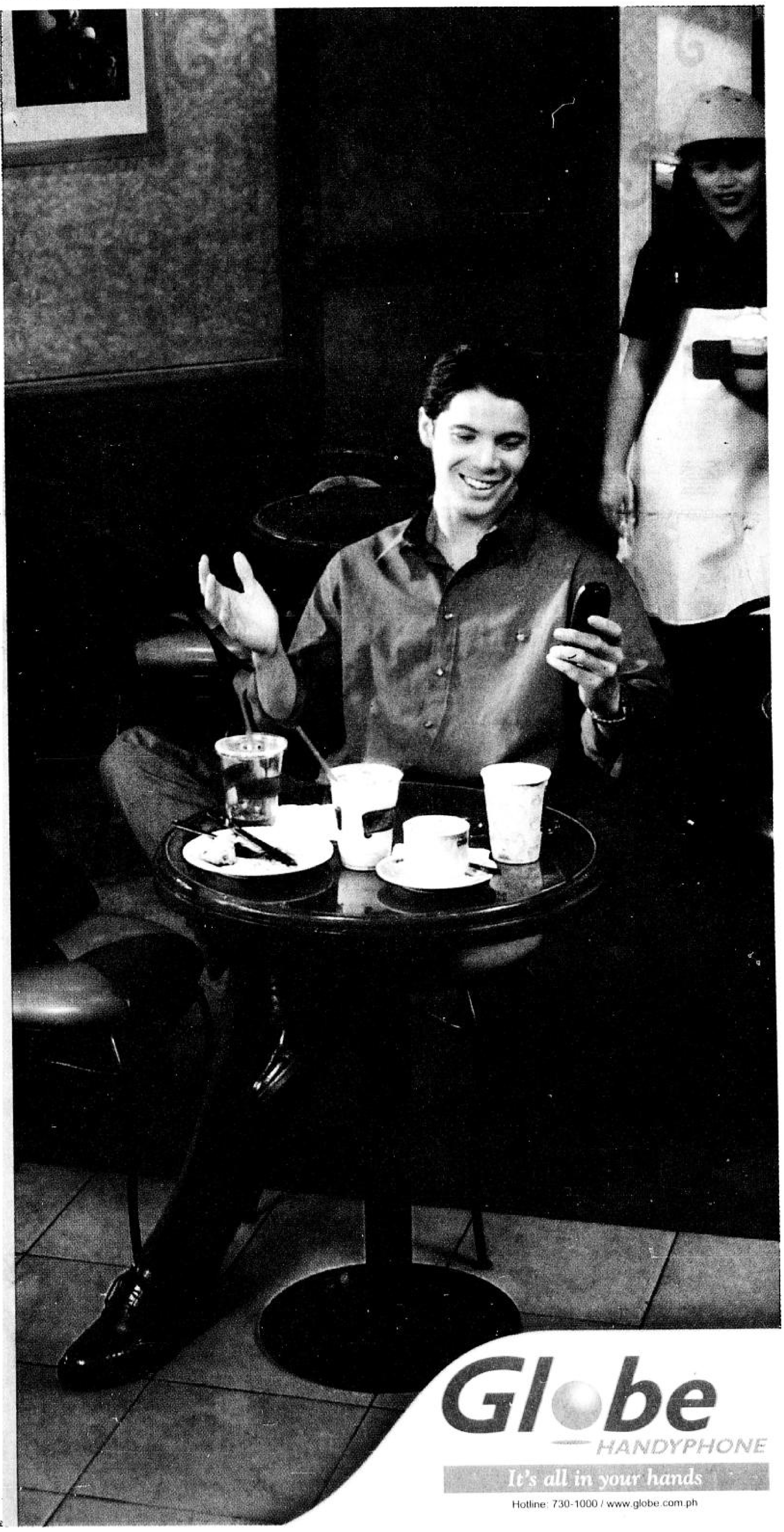
I WAS not expecting a spa in Boracay, especially one that is world-class, but I was in for a surprise.

The Mandala Spa, situated by a cliff and overlooking the pristine beach and azure sea, truly offers a respite and haven for tired city dwellers. The spa, which opened about six months ago, has for the moment four villas where one can have a massage, facials, body wraps, etc. The place is beautiful and serene. Instead of going for the Balinese look, the owners opted for a Filipino touch in the interiors. They have melded the therapeutic philosophy of the Europeans with the relaxing, Zen-like practices of the East.

The spa has water shiatzu (the hottest mind-body relaxation/therapeutic technique in California). It will soon have a parlor, offer healthy cuisine and have more villas. When in Boracay this is a must place to go. You will surely not regret it!

My Boracay experience. It was my first time to go to Boracay and I absolutely loved it! Anyone who has been there has surely gushed over the sand and

BORACAY/ p.E2



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Boracay offers pleasures . . .

(From page E1)

cool, emerald green water. I was with good friend **Maurice Arcache** and we were asked to judge the Bikini Open held at the Pearl of the Pacific. Hardworking and untiring PR **Keren Pascual** was also there promoting Vodka Cruisers (great drink!) and Blavod. We partied with him and his models till sunrise.

This really is a fun place to be—think nonstop parties and beautiful sunset and bodies. Thank God that most Filipinos are body-conscious these days. It helps make the scenery better. One can never get over Europeans who wear the skimpiest Speedos despite their beer belly. When they sunbathe they look like beached whales but, of course, no one wants to help them. Aside from the Mandala Spa, my favorite place to hang and people-watch was the Hey Jude bar. For the best coffee and *arroz à la cubana* go to Caribo. As I write this, off-the-shoulder publicist **Louie Cruz** would have opened his newest restaurant/bar in the D'mall area, so check that out, too.

However, there were some disappointments. Since this is one of our country's major tourist attractions, I was a bit dismayed by the lack of organization on the island. No garbage cans were visible on the beach and people were throwing their cigarette butts, water bottles, plastic—I even saw a Pampers diaper—in the water. I feel that whoever is in charge should work together with resort/bar owners to preserve Boracay's ecology. Give every arriving visitor newsletters or brochures explaining how to preserve the beauty of the place. Officials should draw up stricter regulations for dealing with garbage offenders.

MUST-HAVE self-tanner—Clarins Self-tanning Express, in gel or spray form

And what's with the roads? They are just plain horrible. The tricycles also rip off unwary passengers. I hope something is done soon. This really is such a great place and I would not want to see it be over-commercialized or exploited.

Must-have self-tanner. Trying to get a tan when you are fair-skinned is like watching paint dry—it is long, boring and at times painful. So when I have almost given up on getting a tan and on self-tanning products (I turn orange instead of brown), along comes a product from Clarins that proved to be different—Clarins Self-tanning Express. What's great about this product, besides the fact that it works, is it dries off immediately (read: you can get dressed faster), is long-lasting and moisturizing. It also smells good. The product also comes as a spray. Clarins Self-tanning Express is available at Rustan's.

The prince and Cinderella. Controversy has erupted in Spain over the romance between **Crown Prince Felipe** and Norwegian model **Eva Sannum.** There are rumors they may be tying the knot soon, but critics and monarchists are up in arms claiming it would bring the House of Bourbon in disrepute, or worse, even follow in the footsteps of the British Windsors.

Sannum, the daughter of an auto shop owner, has been criticized for her background, education, and for modeling for lingerie ads and sunbathing topless. The couple has been together for more than three years now. Will love conquer all? Wait and see. This will be better than a telenovela.

TNT tidbits

FASHION'S new mantra: the early '90s are back! Just when you thought that the '80s fashion is just reaching its peak, a whole new trend comes along that will change all that.

Trendophiles who checked out the Fall/Winter 2001 shows have agreed that the early 1990s are back. So what was cool in the early '90s? Think Rave, Grunge, Nirvana and dreadlocks but, please, no MC Hammer pants!

Veil: Brides-to-be will be ecstatic to know there is a magazine out there that will answer all their basic and important questions from A to Z—from caterers to where to go on a honeymoon. The newest magazine to hit Manila, Veil is brought to you by the Metro group through editor in chief **Thelma Sioson San Juan** and assistant editor (and bride-to-be) **Harriet Dy** and the Bridesmaids group. A bridal fashion show was held to launch the magazine. Creations by **Pepito Albert**, **Joe Salazar** and **Inno Sotto** were the show's standouts.

Critical: Supermodel **Niki Taylor** is in critical condition with liver damage and internal bleeding due to a car accident she met days ago. Doctors cannot say if the 26-year-old will recover. Niki was the passenger in the car when it was hit by another car whose driver was allegedly answering his cell phone.

Lawsuit: Superstar/major hunk and recently divorced **Tom Cruise** has filed a $100-million defamation lawsuit against gay porn star **Kyle Bradford**. Bradford has allegedly claimed that he was the actor's lover and was the reason for the breakup of Cruise's marriage to **Nicole Kidman**. Asked about this recent event, Cruise's lawyer, **Bert Fields**, said, "He is a great respecter of homosexual rights, but he's not gay, and he's ready to prove this in court. He is tired of it, and it is hurting his children."

And the winner is... For those following the hit series "Survivor 2" on AXN, you probably know by now who won. **Tina Wesson**, the nurse from Tennessee, bested viewers' favorite, Texan hunk **Colby Donaldson**. She won a million dollars while Donaldson went away with $100,000. Word has it that the next "Survivor" series will be in Kenya and it might be a Hollywood version with actors participating. Can't wait for that one!

Is it true? The metropolis is abuzz with gossip that the wife of a politician from the North has left him because of his philandering... that some caterers who have been around for a long time have lost some of their creativity and have resorted to copying the works, design and food of their competitors... that a lady "senatoriable," who was at the airport at the height of Tuesday's anarchy, was really on her way out of the country... that one of the country's most wanted fugitives, **Atong Ang**, is not in Hong Kong, as originally suspected, but in Los Angeles.

E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com

ROYAL LOVERS. Spain's Crown Prince Felipe with girlfriend Eva Sannum

"SURVIVOR 2" WINNER. Tina Wesson, winner of the "Survivor" series, is shown with runner-up Colby Donaldson.

Hallmark

look for this logo at the back of the card!

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Include your name, address & contact number. Contest ends June 13, 2001. So keep 'em coming! Catch **Joe D'Mango's Love Notes** every Friday (10:00 am) at **WAVE 89.1** as he reads your favorite Between You & Me cards and every Sunday in the Inquirer's Lifestyle section.

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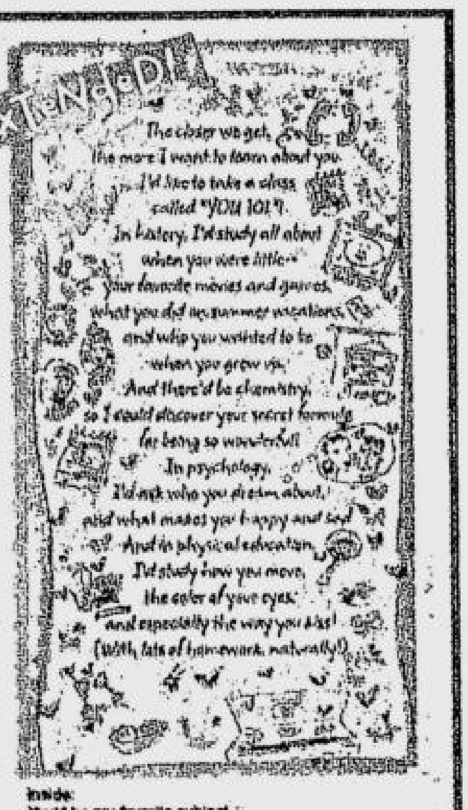

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And there'd be chemistry,
so I could discover your secret formula
for being so wonderful!
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And in physical education,
I'd study how you move,
the color of your eyes,
and especially the way you kiss!
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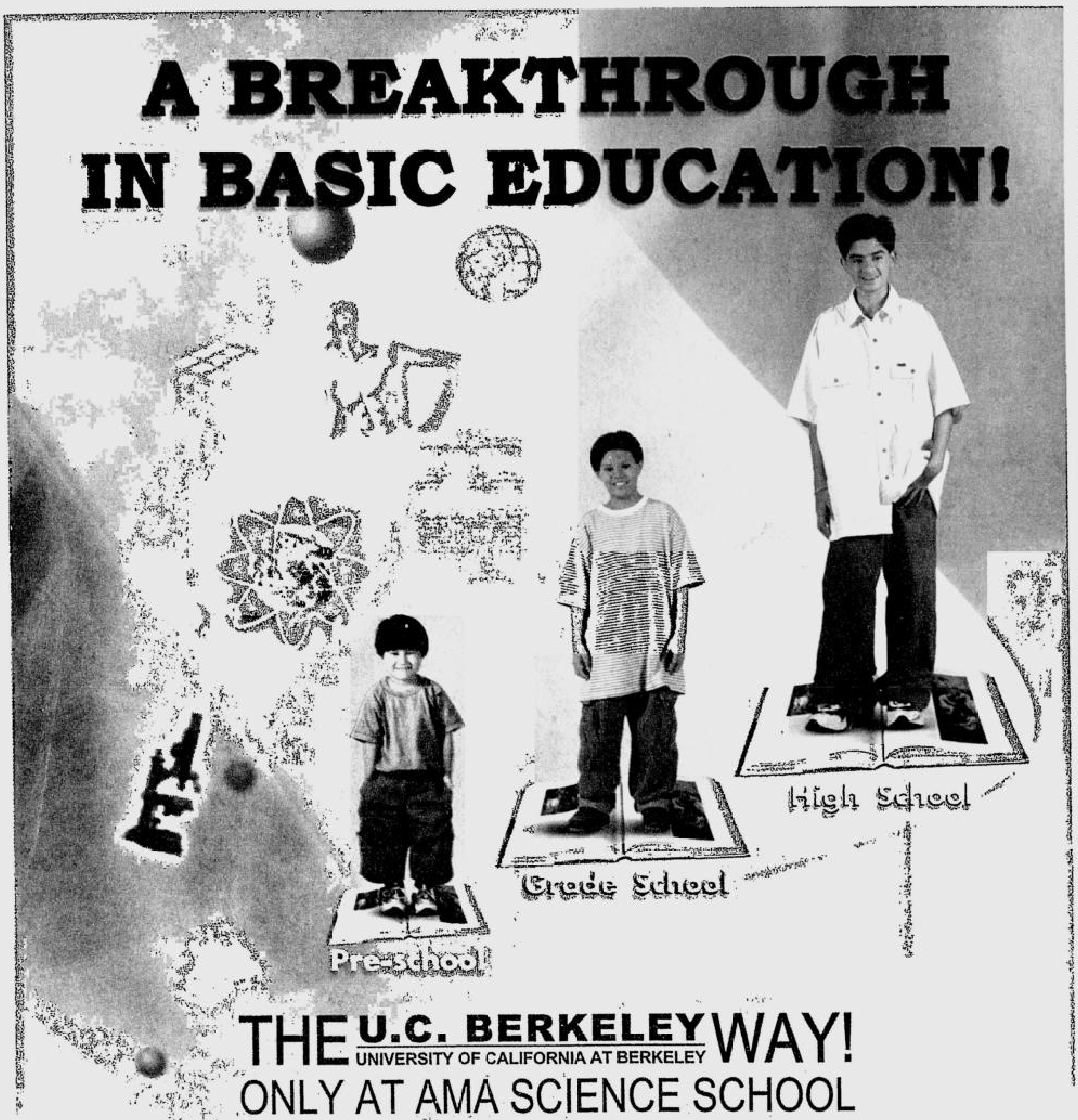

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Cream de la crème

BY KITTY GO

HONG KONG—If you think Crème de la Mer, at $150, is the costliest face cream in the world, think again. Japanese cosmetic giant Shiseido has broken all records with the face cream to beat all face creams and end all wrinkles—La Crème by Cle de Peau Beaute, Shiseido's most prestigious cosmetic and skincare line. At HK$3,500 (about $450), nothing in the cosmetic world comes between La Crème and perfect skin.

Last March, the complete Cle de Peau Beaute line launched here exclusively at Seibu in Pacific Place. It is a skin-care and makeup system "for those who desire the best in everything." It combines breathtaking colors, sensual textures and the most advanced technology. The products have established superior standards in the beauty industry.

The French phrase Cle de Peau Beaute means "key to beautiful skin." The line is based on the total enzyme management theory. With the premise that "the beauty of the skin is closely related to enzyme activity," the mystery of skin care is unlocked in Cle de Peau Beaute.

Enzymes trigger skin renewal and control metabolic activities of cells, collagen and elastin. However, enzyme activity is disturbed by various factors such as pollution, lack of sleep, stress, sun exposure, etc. In other words, healthy enzyme activity is disturbed by daily urban living. According to the experts at Cle de Peau Beaute, great skin can be achieved by controlling enzyme activity.

Exclusive ingredient

From the eye makeup remover at HK$170 ($22) to La Crème, the cream to end aging at HK$3,500 ($450), all 30 products in the Cle de Peau skin-care line contain the exclusive ingredient TC Complex. This ingredient is specially formulated to respond to the skin's changing needs and help it to maintain a healthy balance.

La Crème is a high-performance nighttime face cream that combats aging by revitalizing your skin while you sleep. It claims to do everything a beauty cream should do but hasn't. In other words, it delivers where all other creams have failed. La Crème claims to have all of these actions: clarifying, lifting, firming, energizing and whitening. It also acts as an eye treatment. It is rich but not greasy.

The Cle de Peau Beaute makeup line was formulated by trendsetting makeup artist Stephane Marais. The makeup line has four types of foundation—cream, powder compact, cream compact and liquid. At HK$800 ($100) each, the cream and liquid foundations are in a class of their own. These formulations are as close to perfection as you can get to any makeup base.

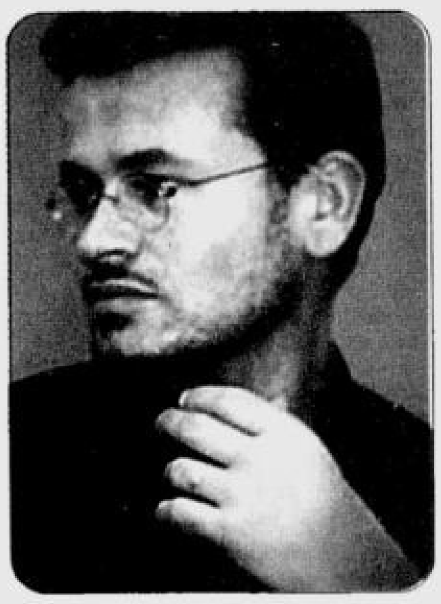
Most unusual

There is a pre-makeup emulsion called Base Lissante (HK$390/$50) which results in a smoother and longer lasting makeup. Two Color Control Foundations (HK$550/$70) in white and bronze adjust uneven skin tones. But the most unusual product yet is the Color Powder (HK$230/$30) which enhances the complexion. This powder is applied over foundation for a natural, long-lasting look.

The eye, lip and cheek colors of the Cle de Peau Beaute line are well selected yet provide limitless combinations from the natural to avant garde. The Lip Duo is a product exclusive to this line. It is a compact that holds both lipstick and powder, based on the professional practice of applying lipstick over a layer of powder for longer wear. The Cle de Beaute makeup line starts at HK$130 ($16) for lip, eyebrow and eyeliners.

Cle de Peau Beaute is available in Hong Kong at Seibu in Pacific Place. Or call Yvonne Kwan at (852)2768-2554, fax (852)2795-4990.

E-mail the author at styledowager@hotmail.com.



MAKEUP master Stephane Marais created the colors for the Cle de Peau Beaute makeup line.

O CREAM ALL YE FAITHFUL. At HK$3500 ($450), La Crème by Cle de Peau Beaute is the cream to end all creams—and wrinkles!

La Crème is a high-performance nighttime face cream that combats aging by revitalizing your skin while you sleep. It delivers where all other creams have failed

YOUTH TONIC. Even the most basic product of the Cle de Peau Beaute skin-care line contains the exclusive TC Complex to rebalance skin enzymes.

COVER YOUR BASES The velvety cream foundation provides luminous cover with treatment

LIP READ. The perfect lipstick combining color, texture and long-wearing formula

Tang
Post
Country Time Drink Mix
Cheez Whiz
Sanka
Maxwell House
Oscar Mayer
Philadelphia Cream Cheese
Singles
Kool-Aid
Kraft
Handi-Snacks

Sa Kraft, pagkahaba-haba man ng biyahe, sa 5-star hotel ka uuwi.

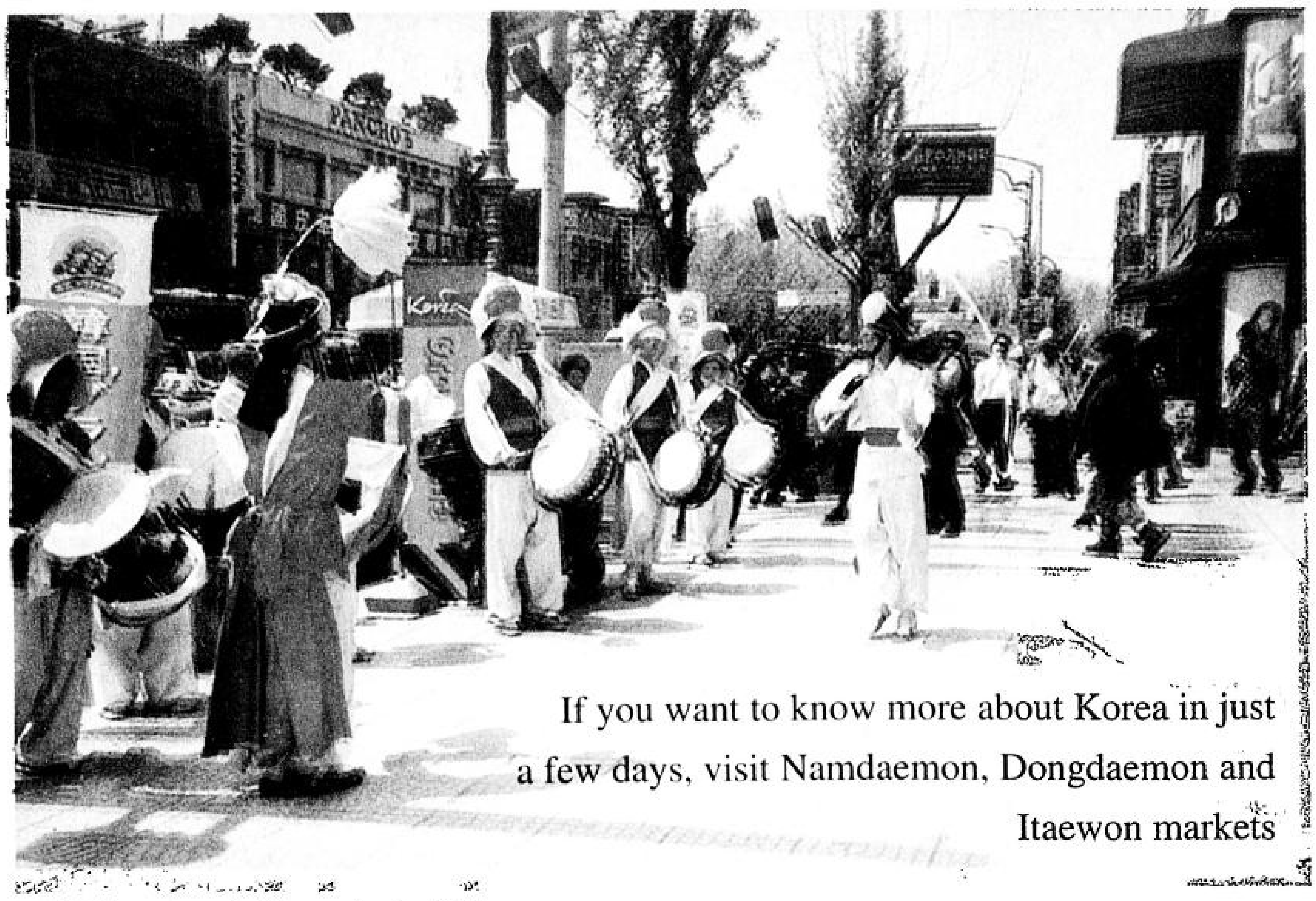
KRAFT Good Food Great Getaway

Manalo ng overnight stay sa Makati Shangri-La Hotel! Garantisado pang may instant prizes tulad ng beach accessories. Lahat panalo! Walang uuwing luhaan! Kaya kalimutan mo na ang balikbayan box, huwag lang ang pasalubong na Kraft.

How to win: Get a chance to win an instant prize for every $10 worth of Kraft products at Duty-Free Fiesta Mall. Present proof of purchase at the Kraft booth and pick a prize: pillow, floating chair, fisherman's caps, baseball caps, Kraft products or an overnight stay at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel. Promo lasts from April 14 to June 3, 2001. Prizes are not convertible to cash.

Duty Free Fiesta Mall

Employees of Kraft Philippines, J. Walter Thompson, Duty-Free Philippines and all their suppliers, including their relatives up to second degree of consanguinity and affinity, are disqualified from joining the promo. Per DOH-BFAD Permit No. 02-48 Series of 2001.



If you want to know more about Korea in just a few days, visit Namdaemon, Dongdaemon and Itaewon markets

A MUSICAL street parade at Itaewon shopping district

AUSTRALIAN journalist Craig Williams with Korean students

HONORARY ambassadors to Visit Korea Year 2001 Mack Williams (third from left) and Christine Bosworth (second from right) with Hahoe Mask Dance players

Shopping is a little-known pleasure in Korea

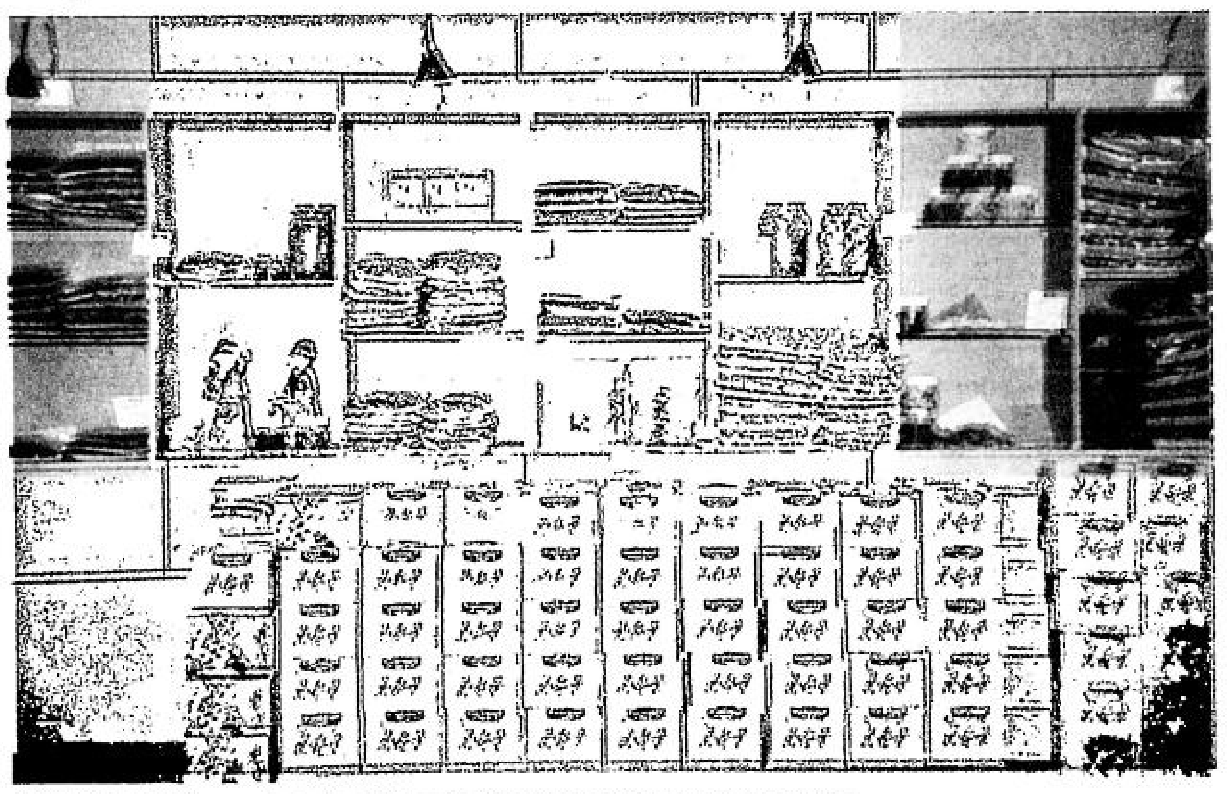
TEXT AND PHOTOS
BY VANGIE BAGA-REYES

NO, it wasn't shopping that lured me to accept the invitation to go to Korea, which is now promoting its Visit Korea Year 2001. Actually, I was eager to use my mobile phone's international roaming feature for the first time. Of course, I was reluctant to leave behind Mavi, my 7-month-old daughter. But, with my cellular phone's special feature, I was certain I could still check on her anytime, anywhere in Korea.

Two of my colleagues were also hoping they could use their mobile phones to connect with their families and leave instructions in the office. But while waiting for our flight at the posh Asiana lounge here, we were informed that we wouldn't be able to use our phones because Globe and Smart have no network coverage in Korea. Although we were disappointed, we still brought our phones with us hoping that, by some miracle, we could get connected from Seoul.

After a five-hour flight via Asiana Airlines, we landed at Incheon International Airport, the newly opened airport in Seoul. Korea is one hour ahead of Manila. We were awed at the vast, modern and spanking clean airport. Huge copper-colored beams on the ground floor perfectly matched the exquisite stained windows. One of my colleagues exclaimed, "I hate them (Koreans). They're so rich. I envy them."

When we stepped out of the airport, we anxiously pulled out our cell phones from our backpacks and pressed the power button. Yes! There was no signal. We spent a few minutes swearing and cursing Filipino telecqmmunication companies, which made us believe their claims of having the "widest coverage worldwide." "Without our cell phones, this trip better be worth it," we muttered to ourselves.



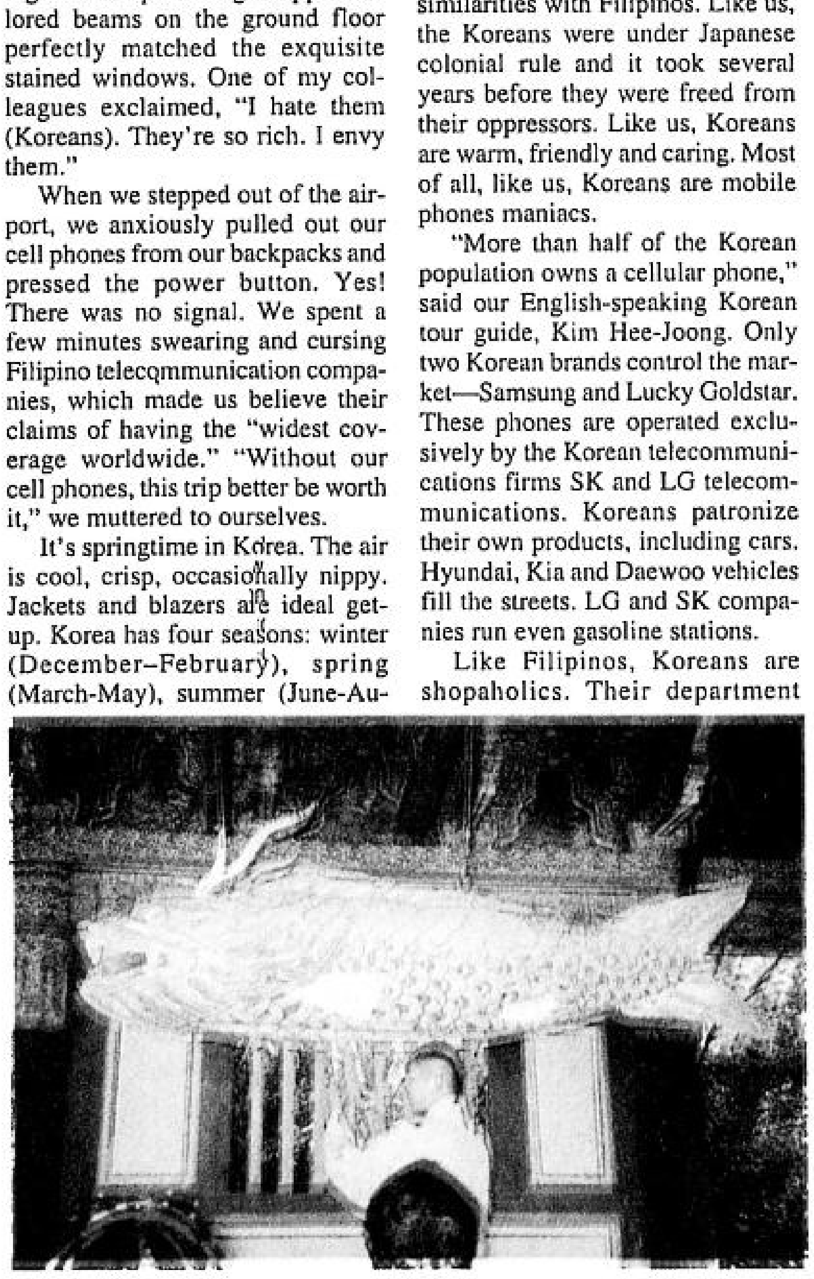
A VARIETY of Korean herbal medicines is displayed at Daegu's public sauna.

It's springtime in Korea. The air is cool, crisp, occasionally nippy. Jackets and blazers are ideal get-up. Korea has four seasons: winter (December–February), spring (March-May), summer (June-August) and autumn (September-November). On our way to Lotte World Hotel, about an hour away from Incheon, we noticed that Koreans are suckers for long, wide roads. Every road we took was like a freeway, well-paved and unpolluted. Some roads were being constructed in certain areas, but unlike in Manila, the roadwork doesn't obstruct the flow of traffic.

So much alike

Koreans have a great deal of similarities with Filipinos. Like us, the Koreans were under Japanese colonial rule and it took several years before they were freed from their oppressors. Like us, Koreans are warm, friendly and caring. Most of all, like us, Koreans are mobile phones maniacs.

"More than half of the Korean population owns a cellular phone," said our English-speaking Korean tour guide, Kim Hee-Joong. Only two Korean brands control the market—Samsung and Lucky Goldstar. These phones are operated exclusively by the Korean telecommunications firms SK and LG telecommunications. Koreans patronize their own products, including cars. Hyundai, Kia and Daewoo vehicles fill the streets. LG and SK companies run even gasoline stations.



A BUDDHIST monk plays the fish gong at Pulguksa Temple in Kyongsangbuk-Do province.

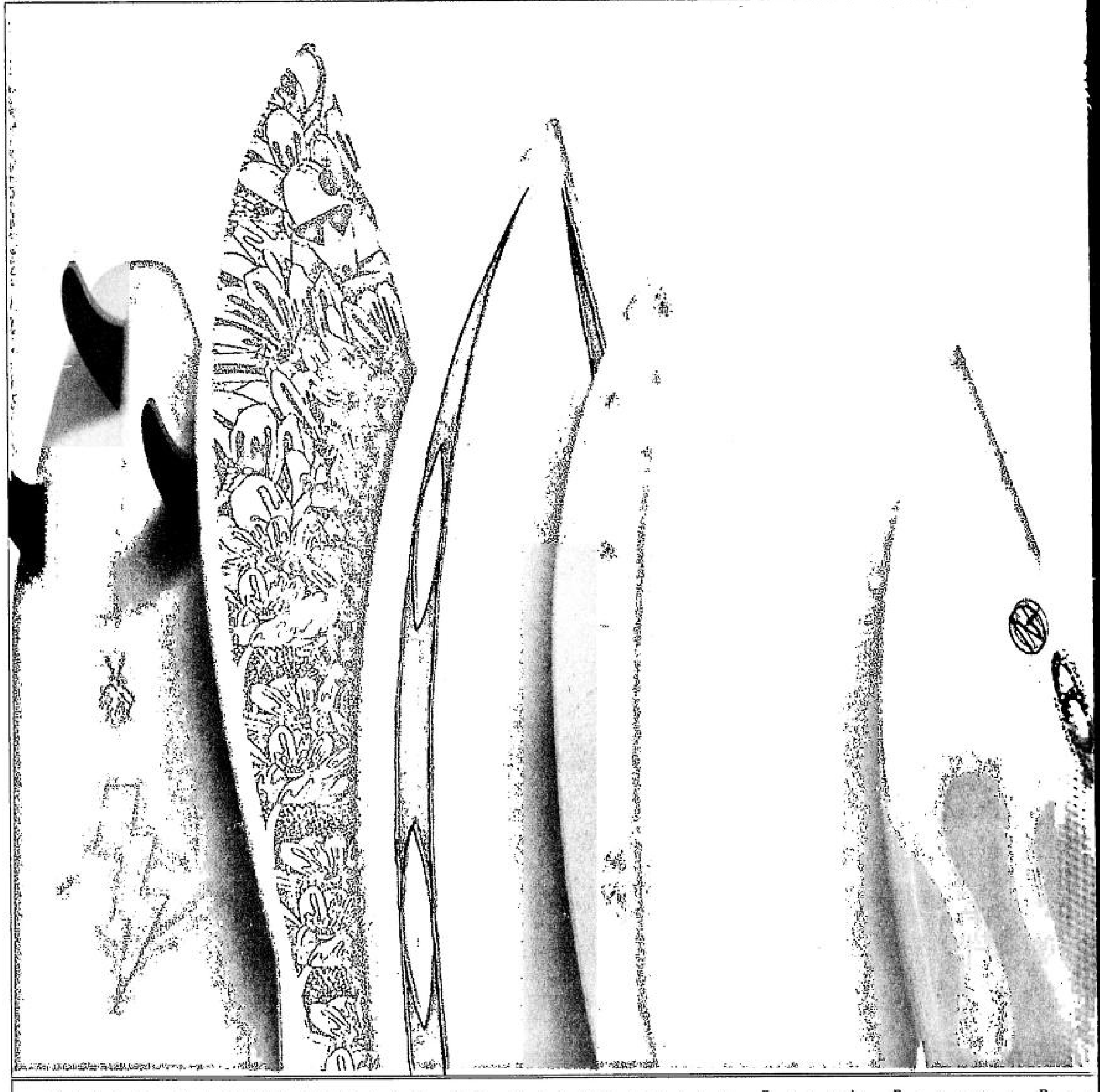
Like Filipinos, Koreans are shopaholics. Their department stores, shopping districts and traditional markets are bursting with people, both locals and tourists. In Seoul, popular shopping areas are Dongdaemon, Namdaemon and Itaewon.

Tourism at its best

They say if your want to know about Korea in just a few days, then you must visit Namdaemon market. It's the largest Korean traditional market. Its greatest merit, we were told, is that you can buy a wide range of products at prices lower than in other shopping areas of Seoul. Virtually anything you want can be found here—clothes, shoes, houseware, food, luggage, furniture, etc. At Dongdaemon, shops are open until 5 a.m. It is brightly lit and plays cheerful music. The biggest sellers are fabric, clothing, leathergoods, bed linens, houseware and footwear. Here, business is more brisk at night than in daytime. Many merchants from rural areas come to the area mostly at night for business. Itaewon caters to tourists and people from the nearby American military base. It carries branded items like Prada, LV, Nike and Adidas.

Shopping is the main come-on that the Korea National Tourism Organization (KNTO) and Asiana Airlines, our trip's major sponsors, hopes will bring people to the country for Visit Korea Year 2001, which aims to show visitors the hidden beauty of Korea. "We hope to entice more foreign visitors to experience our natural and cultural treasures than ever before," said Cho Young-shim, chair of Travel Korea 2001. "We have festivals and special events arranged for our tourists. We want to make their trip to Korea more interesting, allowing real participation in and interaction with our people and culture, beyond just ordinary passive viewing."

Asiana Airlines, Korea's second national flag carrier, has been doing its part in promoting Visit Ko-


Catch Fun@Boracay at Cocomangas Beach Front, Bor

HAHOE Village's Garden Totem Poles ward off evil spirits in Andong.

KYONGJU preserves the brilliant Buddhist culture from the Shilla Dynasty.

MORE than half of the Korean population owns a cellular phone.

rea 2001. Asiana is offering a pleasant trip to all its passengers, whether in economy or business class. With its Asiana Club, members are allowed to earn free flights. As part of its promo, Asiana has expanded its frequent flyer program for families. The airline's Family Mileage Plan allows club member parents and their Magic Miles-registered children to pool their mileage points for bonus rewards. Under one Family Mileage Plan, up to five immediate family members within three generations are now allowed to pool their miles.

In general, Korea is trying its best to build the country's image and reputation as one of the world's tourist destinations, in preparation for the 2002 World Cup and Asian Games that it will be hosting. "There is an opportunity this year to upgrade our facilities and services to higher standards. We have a chance to make it into the upper ranks of global tourist destinations, if we can succeed in this challenge," Asiana said.

The first Visit Korea Year was held in 1994, reportedly with mixed results mainly due to the crisis arising from North Korea's nuclear program as well as high prices arising from unstable currency. "Frankly speaking, we all know Korea has in the past lacked sufficient quality facilities and services, and suffered from the excessively high barriers of language and attitude. Problems included lack of timely and accurate information in English or other languages, and a dearth of qualified translators; a crisis of traffic and parking in urban areas; and attitudes unfriendly to foreign travelers," noted Dho.

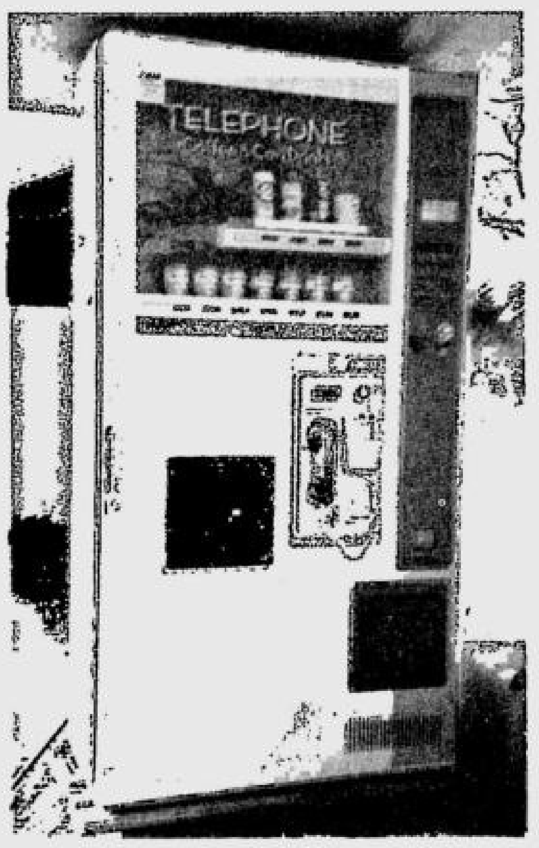
Now, Korea assures travelers that they are working very hard this year to solve these problems. "With Visit Korea Year 2001, it's a crucial step in South Korea's evolution toward becoming a world-class economy and society. We hope adventure-seeking travelers from all around the globe will come to Korea to see our splendid sights, taste our zesty food and have fun at our colorful festivals."

Unforgettable visit

Our visit to Korea was not limited only to Seoul. KNTO also brought us to various rural areas to see and experience Korea's way of life, culture and heritage. We went to Andong, about five hours away from Seoul and witnessed the Mask Dance Festival at Hahoe Village. The mask dance is one of Korea's traditional folk dances. From Andong we moved to Daegu City, the fashion and textile capital of Korea. Daegu is a two-hour drive from Andong. Several boutiques and shops carry signature brands. From Daegu, we moved to Kyongju province where you will feel Korea's magnificent cultural tradition. It is a city widely known for its rich cultural heritage and is also a holy place. Buddhist temples and shrines —including the Pulguksa temple and Sokkuram Grotto—are everywhere.

Among all the places we went to, I cannot forget our brief stay in Daegu, particularly our visit to the sauna. Aside from public saunas, private saunas are also available at special rates. Korea is popular for its medicinal herbs and ginseng. On our second night at Daegu, we were brought to a public sauna to get a feel of a Korean medicinal herb bath. Medicinal herb bathing aims to relieve stress and eradicate all kinds of diseases among adults. It is a bathing tradition handed down from ancient aristocrats.

I recalled from a Newsweek article that Korean women are famed for their beauty. In fact, the hottest topic, by far, is the perfect Korean skin, which is thought to be paler, more supple and unblemished than any other. Korea has no fat women and their skin is more beautiful than Japanese women's.



A VENDO machine-cum-public phone is a familiar sight in Korea.

"You know our secret?" asked Kim. "It's the sauna!" No wonder, many tourists visit Korea's salons for traditional herb masks and skin scrubs.

We went to a public sauna with the rest of the Asian journalists. For a special herb bath, women are separated from the men. We were stark naked. After thoroughly soaping and showering, we went inside an igloo-shaped mud oven with other naked women. We were to stay inside for 15 minutes, after which we soaked ourselves in a tub filled with brown hot herbs. It was relaxing and quite a relief after a long day.

The visit to Korea more than made up for my inability to use my cellular phone.

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph

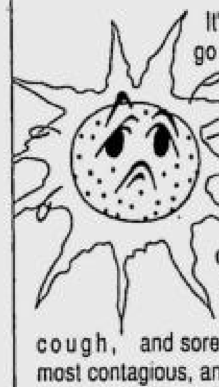
fond of fruit?

Drysdale

aay on April 26-28, 2001. See you at the beach!

Don't let chicken pox scar your summer

(And the rest of your life!)



It's summertime–the season for fun and relaxation, the time to go partying, get a tan at the beach, renew ties with old friends and meet new and interesting people. But summertime also ushers in a host of infectious diseases to which many of us are particularly susceptible. One of the most common is chicken pox, a viral disease that affects a greater number of people during the summer months. Acquired through the inhalation of airborne droplets containing the varicella-zoster virus (VZV), chicken pox spreads rapidly in crowded, overpopulated urban areas. It begins as a flu-like illness characterized by fever, headache, runny nose, cough, and sore throat. At this time (called the prodrome period) patients are most contagious, and may unknowingly pass on the virus every time they sneeze or cough. It is only 2-3 days later, when patients develop the characteristic rashes, that chicken pox can be distinguished from the usual viral infections: The rashes develop into fluid-filled vesicles that can be extremely itchy. The summer heat only serves to aggravate the condition. Scratching the blisters, as most patients are prone to do, may lead to skin infections and eventually, unsightly scars and pock marks.

Even worse, the varicella virus can travel to other parts of the body and cause complications. In the lungs it can cause pneumonia, while in the brain it can cause encephalitis and meningitis. It can be fatal in patients with weakened defenses against disease, such as those with malnutrition, cancer and immune disorders, and in the very young. The virus remains dormant in the nervous system and can cause another type of skin eruption called "shingles" or herpes zoster–which can be unbearably painful–much later in life.

What to do once you have chickenpox

At the first sign of chickenpox, It is important to see your doctor immediately. You don't even have to wait for the characteristic rashes to appear. Flu-like symptoms after exposure to someone with chickenpox should prompt a visit to your doctor. He or she can guide you through several treatment options. In the past, treatment for chickenpox focused on strengthening the immune system, taking adequate bed rest and improving diet. Advances in medicine led into the development of the antiviral, now the standard in chickenpox therapy because it shortens the duration of disease and minimizes the development of much-dreaded pockmarks. The antiviral medicines work by preventing the varicella-zoster virus from reproducing. In a study conducted last year in five big hospitals in Metro Manila, the use of an antiviral within 24 hours from the onset of rashes was associated with accelerated recovery from chicken pox, faster resolution of skin lesions, and less risk of complications.

So when you or someone you know starts showing the telltale signs of chicken pox, there is no need to fret. Go and see your doctor immediately. A timely visit to your doctor, coupled with antiviral medication and adequate care (enough rest and proper diet) will free you from the unnecessary suffering associated with the disease. Chicken pox is conquerable and your doctor is your best ally in your fight against it. In no time at all you, your family and friends can enjoy the rest of the summer...pockmark-free!

TRAVEL

ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO, Editor

THREE types of moving objects on the narrow road to Agra: the slow-moving herd of camels, a speeding cargo truck, and an overtaking, honking auto.

DO AS THE NATIVES DO. Lost in the land of the Punjabis, the Filipino tourist fashions a turban with his sweatshirt to cushion the load of earth he is to carry, wears a cheescloth kurta, but retains his identity underneath a RayBan.

Roaming INDIA

BY CESAR C. VILLARIBA

INDIA has been a mystery to Filipinos ever since they outgrew their childhood fear of the bumbay and discovered a country. Historians say India is not a country—it is a culture that is one of the oldest, a fusion of diverse influences. A trip to India is like going into a time machine that opens the gate to her glorious past.

The land is a subcontinent and so topographically varied that travelers cannot cover all of it in one visit. Today's travelers jet into the capital city of New Delhi to comb the northwest route as a starter course in discovering a treasure by accident. From New Delhi, the journey spreads out to where the plains meet the Himalayas and the boundaries of Pakistan.

From the center, travelers venture into a quick tour to round what is called the "golden triangle" cities of Jaipur, Agra and New Delhi. But for half the price that tour groups charge, and if he can find a friendly and honest taxi driver (like a rare jewel, they exist), the visitor can go the budget route.

Motoring on the golden triangle's 750 kilometers of two-lane highways in a vintage Austin Morris rent-a-car assembled in India is like going through an obstacle course. The visitor sits on the edge of his front seat trying to cool it as the car swerves violently to avoid a huge, slow-moving object—which turns out to be a camel—suddenly appearing from the roadside. At other times, there is a bullock cart at a blind bend, or a donkey on a slow ride to Jaipur to zigzag around. The visitor stares at the taxi driver, who appears as unstirred as a meditating yogi.

Occasionally, the roar of an oncoming big truck overtaking on a strictly two-lane highway breaks the dullness of the first five-hour ride. Neither driver blinks.

Peering through the fingers of his hand, the visitor witnesses the making of a death-defying stunt as the bantam car squeezes through the eye of a needle—a speeding cargo truck, a fully loaded bus and a slow herd of camels. Calculating varied rates of speed, the visitor concludes that driving on India's highways needs the precision of a mathematician or just plain luck. He realizes why the safety and comfort of tourist coaches commands such a high price.

Changing landscape

From wheat fields and grazing lands, the landscape changes to sandy deserts upon reaching the "pink city" of Jaipur. The city is so called because the buildings lining the main streets are all painted amber pink. Its bazaars are famous for good jewelry and heirloom carpets.

Remnants of the rule of feudal rajahs are seen on the few surviving edifices, foremost of which is the Pink Palace where royal guests used to watch the parade of subjects. At the outskirts of the city sit the rajah's palaces, which have become museum showcases to their once-upon-a-time splendor.

There are camel and elephant rides through the desert of Rajasthan, but there is no time for that now. The merchants of Jaipur have already detained the travelers longer than necessary.

It is getting late as the travelers leave the city for Agra, hoping that they may still catch the sunset—if not the light of a full moon—on the Taj Mahal mirrored on the still pool of water. But alas, the sun sets, and still no Taj is in sight. An expected brilliant moon becomes a disappointing soft-lens image behind a cloudy evening sky as the travelers retire for the night at a bungalow hotel.

At sunrise, the Taj Mahal finally appears—and it does not disappoint. The visitor can only gape at such a lavish monument to a lost love that took 20,000 skilled marble craftsmen and materials from other parts of a vast empire to build, and 20 years to finish.

The Taj is as much a tribute to Agra's craftsmen as it is to an emperor's departed queen. On each façade are inlaid in black marble extensive texts of the Koran. The white marble walls, whose color changes at dawn or sunset or by moonlight, are inlaid with semi-precious stones and carved with floral reliefs.

Inside the crypt is a most extravagant solid marble tomb inlaid with stones, the most precious and biggest of which have been lost to vandals—as well as pure gold sheets that used to line the ceiling. After all, it is more than 300 years old. Its original grandeur has somehow diminished, but it still stands as the greatest and most expensive structure ever built by human hands.

Delhi of the past

As the roads become more congested with traffic, the travelers realize that they are nearing the finish line of the golden triangle tour. In Old Delhi, they reach the ruins of the Kutab Minar, now just a shadow of its glorious structure as an Islamic center of learning built by a Muslim general who established a sultanate in the 12th century.

From what remains of a vast compound, the travelers can glean an opulent Indo-Islamic architecture untedating the Taj Mahal. Towering tall over the Kutab ruins is an intact, four-tiered monolith intricately carved in red sandstone. Scattered around the compound are rows of carved stone columns and pillars of what remains of a mosque. Traces of Hindu figure motifs carved by Hindu craftsmen in Muslim geometric and arabesque patterns are evident on the walls.

Indiana Jones

Inland travel is best done by train, which offers air-conditioned first-class sleepers or airline seats minus the amiable stewardess.

But the Delhi railway station can be a tourist's nightmare where beggars, hustlers and pickpockets pounce on their favorite prey. No dressing-up-like-a-native in dust-colored and sun-drenched safari khaki can camouflage one, not even a brown Asian. The Filipino nose is a giveaway under a RayBan in the land of proud-nosed Aryan descendants.

Train stations can be a rude awakening for tourists who have yet to shake off their jet-comforting mindset.

After a long stretch of eucalyptus trees, golden wheat fields and dusty plains, reaching one's destination is such a liberation that one feels ready to assume the disposition of a Buddha again. But there's a last train tip that tourists must remember: Disembarking at a minor train stop in the country must be done quickly, luggage in tow, or they will miss their station. It is a mad scramble at the exit.

At one such stop, the visitor is so taken by a pastoral scene that he alights for a whiff of country air and barely notices the train moving away behind him. He chases after the train—and his tourist life support system. He makes a life-and-death grab for the handle bar, legs flapping *a la* Indiana Jones.

Northward route

The visitor makes a stop in the land of the Punjab, home of the tall turbaned warrior class. They are like one big family, all surnamed Singh, meaning "lion" (as in Singapore).

The Punjab is the bread basket of India, where men in bright turbans till the land and women in flowing tops and trousers harvest the wheat crop. Nearby, the huge river Beas continues to divert through the plains, giving way to land that can be reclaimed by a growing colony. Once, the mighty river of an Indian giver came back to claim the riverbanks again, causing great floods and burying the low-lying plains.

In Beas, villagers tell of the legend of a garden where flowers bloom brightest and the atmosphere is spiritually charged. This must be Dera, with its landmark brick edifice topped by a main onion-dome tower and six corner towers rising as symbolic signposts to as many mystical heavens far more beautiful that a traveling soul must traverse within in order to reach home.

This is the land where mystic saints and gurus live and walk the dusty path somewhere in time. In the village of Ghoman can be found the house—made of earth mud—where a legendary guru dwelled and meditated for a lifetime. The century-old house still stands to this day as an ecological shrine.

On a clear day at twilight, if one is lucky, the pink-topped Himalayas northeast of the horizon appear. The Himalayas beckon, and if the traveler answers to the call, he will find himself in Daramshala at the foothills where the exiled Dalai Lama has set up a spiritual center out of Tibet. There, like Richard Gere, he will find the great wall of the imposing snow-topped mountains providing a majestic backdrop to relive the original Buddha's code of ethics.

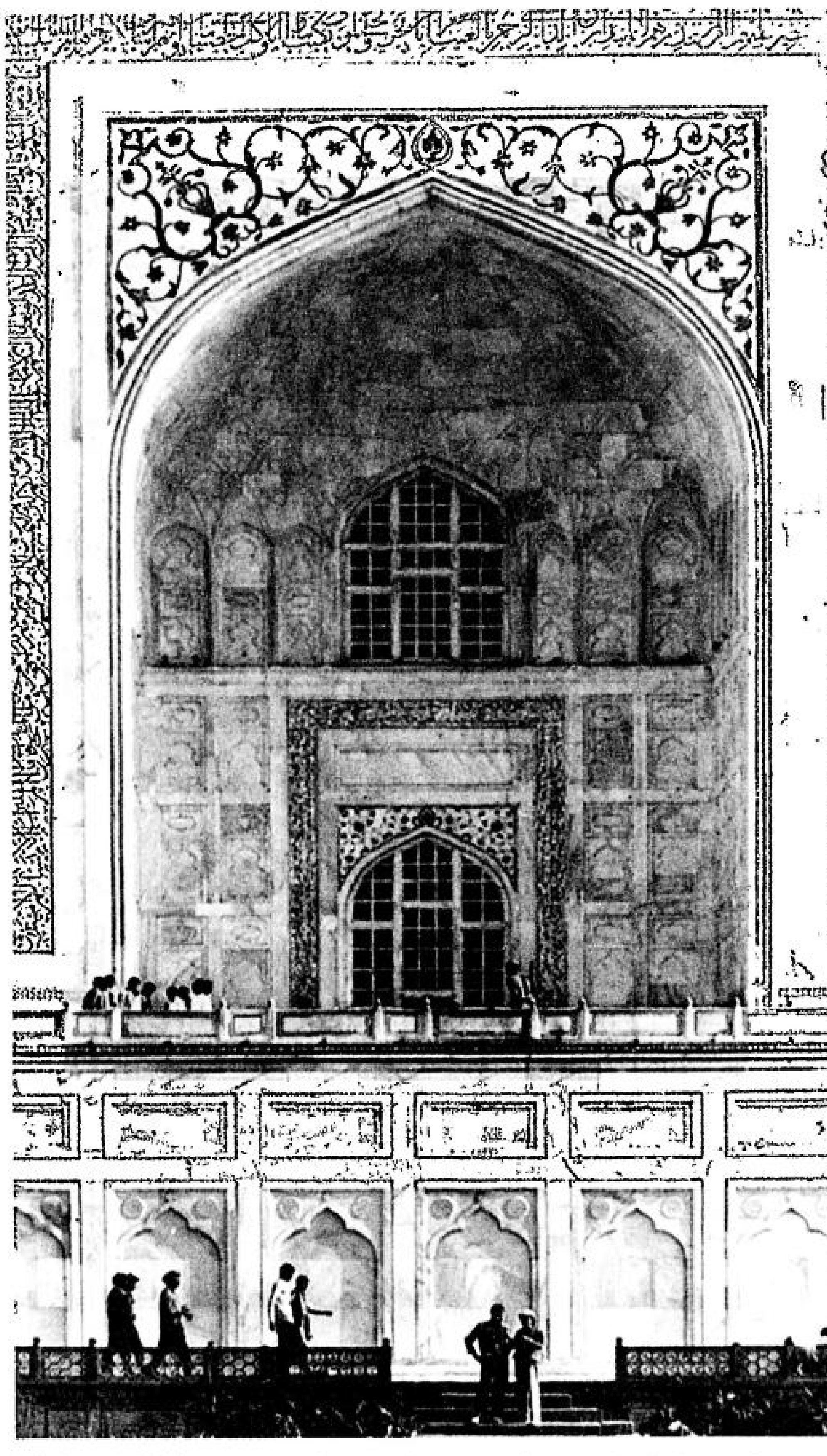
Or in some future dream-wish when the political situation has simmered down, the traveler may venture to the northernmost state of Kashmir where old-timers reminisce about its pristine landscapes and romantic lakes.

Today, tourists make a vicarious trip by acquiring from the shops of New Delhi a part of Kashmir: the finest woolen and silk shawls or exquisite carpet-tapestries.

Shopcraft of the world

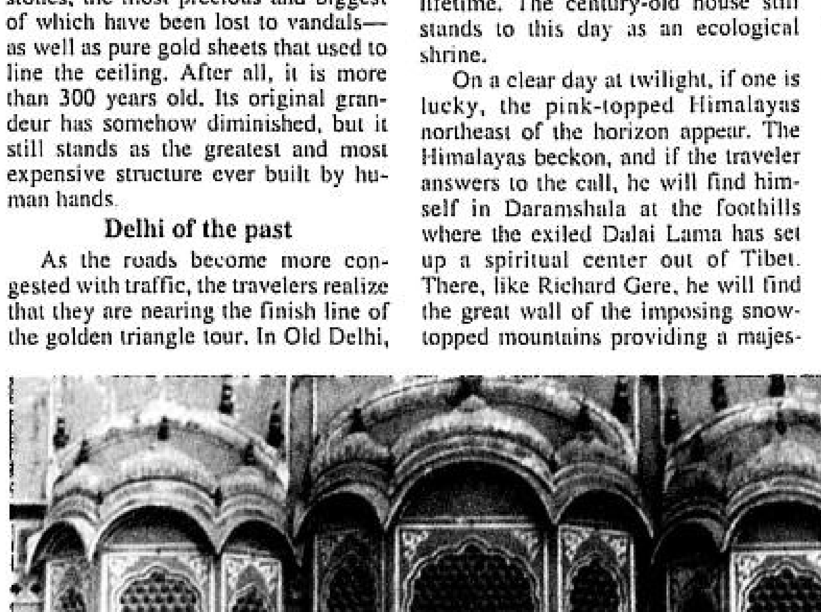
If invaders used to rob a country of its treasure, nowadays tourists can shop for them in New Delhi.

Despite its changing political and cultural atmosphere, the essential soul of India as expressed in her crafts has remained unspoiled and indigenous. Part of a traveler's delight is finding a treasure from among the wares that vendors routinely shove in your face. And part of the enjoyment of this treasure hunt is the firm conviction that only the traveler can define what is valuable to him, not to the merchant who wants to make a sale.



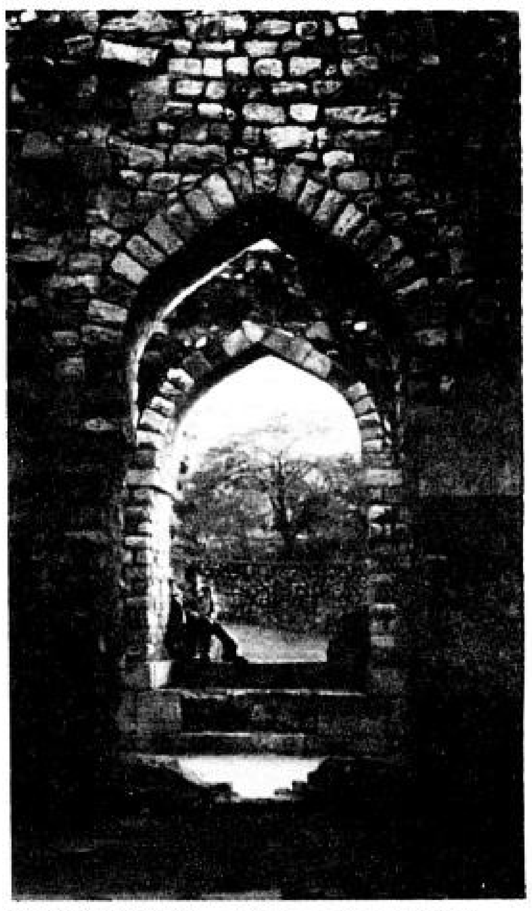
THE MAGNIFICENT white marble facade of the Taj Mahal reflects the colors of the day from midday ecru to sunset gold to moonlit blue to the colors of dawn. Up close, it highlights the fine inlaid work in semi-precious stones and black marble, dwarfing the tourist and his tall Indian guide.

THIS HOUSE of sun-dried earth clay has survived a hundred years in the village of Ghoman. The eco-friendly, all-weather dwelling is warm in winter and cool in summer.



THE FILIPINO tourist peers from a window of the Pink Palace of Jaipur to view the inner courtyard of a once-grandiose past.

THE RUINS of Kutab Minar in Old Delhi offers a peek into a 12th century Indo-Islamic architecture with its towering monolith, carved pillars and arches of red and yellow sandstone.



THE TRAVELER meditates on the mystical wisdom that once pervaded the inner chambers of the ancient Islamic Kutab Minar.

THE GOLDEN TEMPLE in Amritsar–its exterior covered with gold sheets–is the seat of the Sikh religion where the sacred book written by the 10 gurus is kept.

PHOTOS BY LYNETT VILLARIBA

If you're hitting the road, break it up but keep in touch

SO you're driving out of town or leaving on a jet plane for cooler countries? You'd do well to:

✈ **Plan side trips and stopovers.** Break up long road trips into segments. This gives the car, and, more importantly, the driver, a chance to rest, dramatically reducing the risk of an overheated vehicle or an accident caused by driving fatigue.

✈ **Keep in touch.** Make sure your cellular phone is charged or, better yet, invest in a portable charger pack that can go into your car's lighter socket. A communication link with authorities and your family is an absolute must especially when going to an unfamiliar place on long desolate roads.

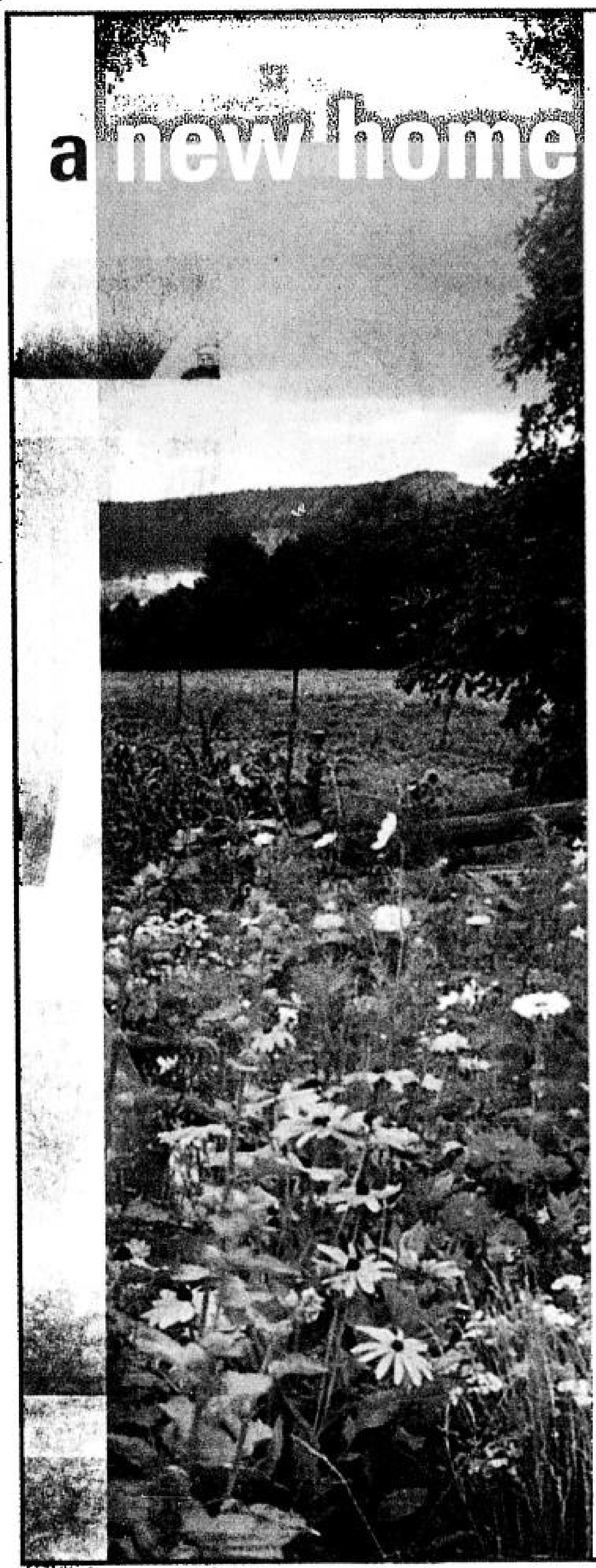
✈ **Think comfort.** When going abroad, wear or bring comfortable shoes and clothes, and other basic necessities. You'll never know when you'll be doing a lot of walking or if you'd be forced to stay on your feet for a long time.

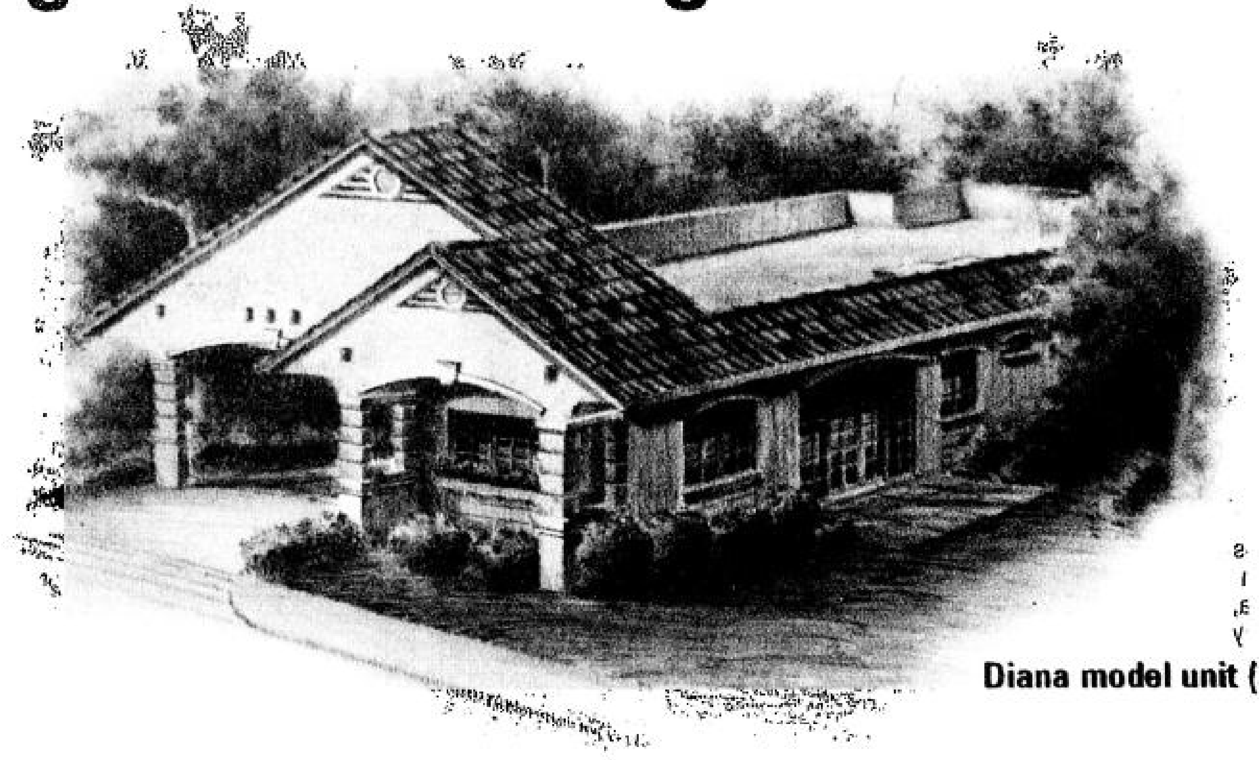
✈ **Travel light.** Travel experts all over the world cannot over-emphasize the benefits of traveling light. This gives shopping aficionados the chance to bring home more stuff without exceeding the weight limit imposed by airlines, or overburdening their car. And for those who are not exactly crazy about shopping, traveling light cuts down on the time spent packing, leaving you more leeway for sightseeing. Just sling on a light bag or backpack and you're ready to hit the streets.

✈ **Carry a trusted card wherever you go.** The cards available through the Equitable Card Network are honored in thousands of establishments from Aparri to Jolo, and in over 220 countries worldwide. Charging your plane fare to your Equitable Card automatically entitles you to travel insurance coverage ranging from P1 million to P12 million. Equitable cardholders can secure cash advances through more than 4,000 ATMs nationwide and 500,000 ATMs worldwide.

These tips were prepared by Equitable Card, which gives travelers the widest array of credit cards to choose from—the Equitable Visa, VISA Electron, MasterCard, JCB and American Express.

a new home emerges in the rising town of the east





Diana model unit (298 sqm.)

Come home to DIANA, the newest residential offering to rise in Mission Hills, Filinvest East County. Bringing flexibility and classic good looks under one roof, DIANA allows for vertical expansion, giving one a choice in designing the second-storey open space according to one's lifestyle needs.

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Via Marcos Highway: From **Marcos Highway** (eastbound), turn right at **Sumulong Highway** (Masinag Market is at your left). Go straight ahead, and upon approaching an intersection, get ready to turn right at the **Circumferential Road**. Go straight past a Montessori school until you reach a triangle landmark, turn right at this point to reach a rotunda. Turn left passing the **Ynares Center** at your left side. Turn right at the **M.L. Quezon Avenue**, which is marked by several commercial establishments. Follow the Mission Hills road signs then turn right upon seeing the Mission Hills entry marker.

Via Ortigas Avenue Extension: From **Ortigas Avenue**, continue driving straight to **Ortigas Extension**. Go straight until reaching a crossroad leading to the **Circumferential Road** marked by a rotunda. Go straight past the **Ynares Center** at your left side. Turn right at **M.L. Quezon Avenue**, which is marked by several commercial establishments. Follow the Mission Hills road signs then turn right upon seeing the Mission Hills entry marker.

FILINVEST
EAST COUNTY

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Sunday LIFES

Waken uppers

Doña Buding chases election blues away

COMPILED BY CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO

NANETTE Inventor with director Tony Espejo

IF Don **Jaime Zobel de Ayala** no less showed up with his family and friends at the Music Museum to support Doña Buding's campaign for the Senate, could **Nanette Inventor** be anything but a winner?

Inventor, she with the laugh-a-minute repertoire, the hilarious one-liners, the stinging tirades at anyone and everyone worth name-dropping in these interesting times, spared not even the show's writer **Joey Reyes**, whom she blamed for this country's preoccupation with lust.

Fashion tycoon **Ben Chan** also came with kin and friends. He loved the show so much he decided to buy one evening. There you go—we shop for shirts from Bench and he shops for comedy shows.

DOÑA/ p.F4

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2. All raffle coupons must be filled up completely : name, address, telephone number, signature and any other information that may be required. If incomplete, said raffle stub will be disqualified.
3. Raffle draw will be on May 25, 2001 at the Head Office of Roasters Philippines, Inc.
4. A guest can only win once. In case a name is drawn more than once, the prize with the higher value is given. Prizes are not convertible to cash.
5. Winners will be notified via phone & registered mail. Raffle prizes must be claimed within sixty (60) days from receipt of notification. Winners can claim their prize at the Head Office of RoastersPhils., Inc., 6/F Singapore Airlines Bldg., H.V. Dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or at the Kenny Rogers Roasters store closest to the address given by winner in the raffle coupon.
6. Employees of Roasters Philippines, Inc. and its affiliate companies , PR agency and their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining the promotion.

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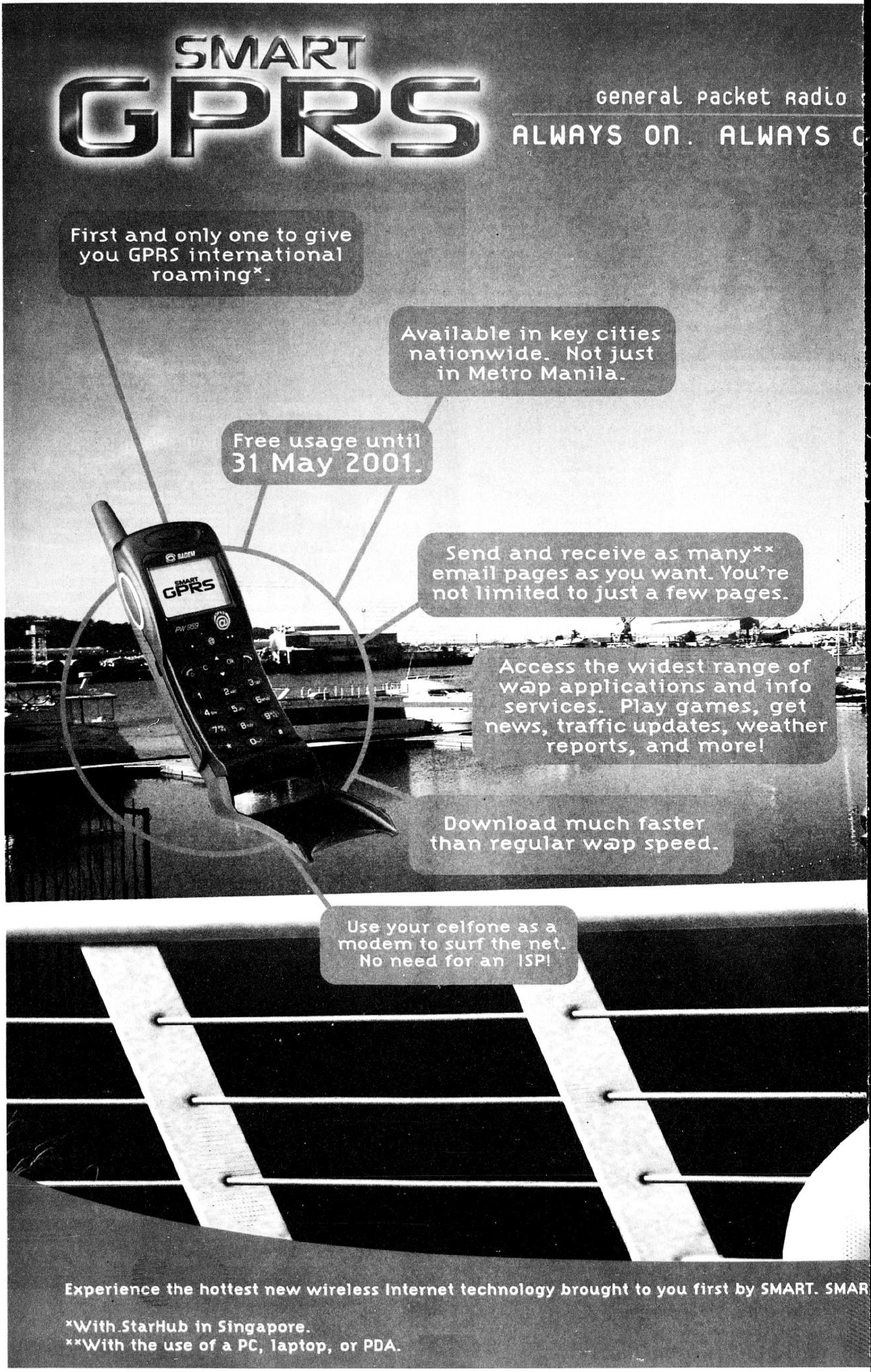
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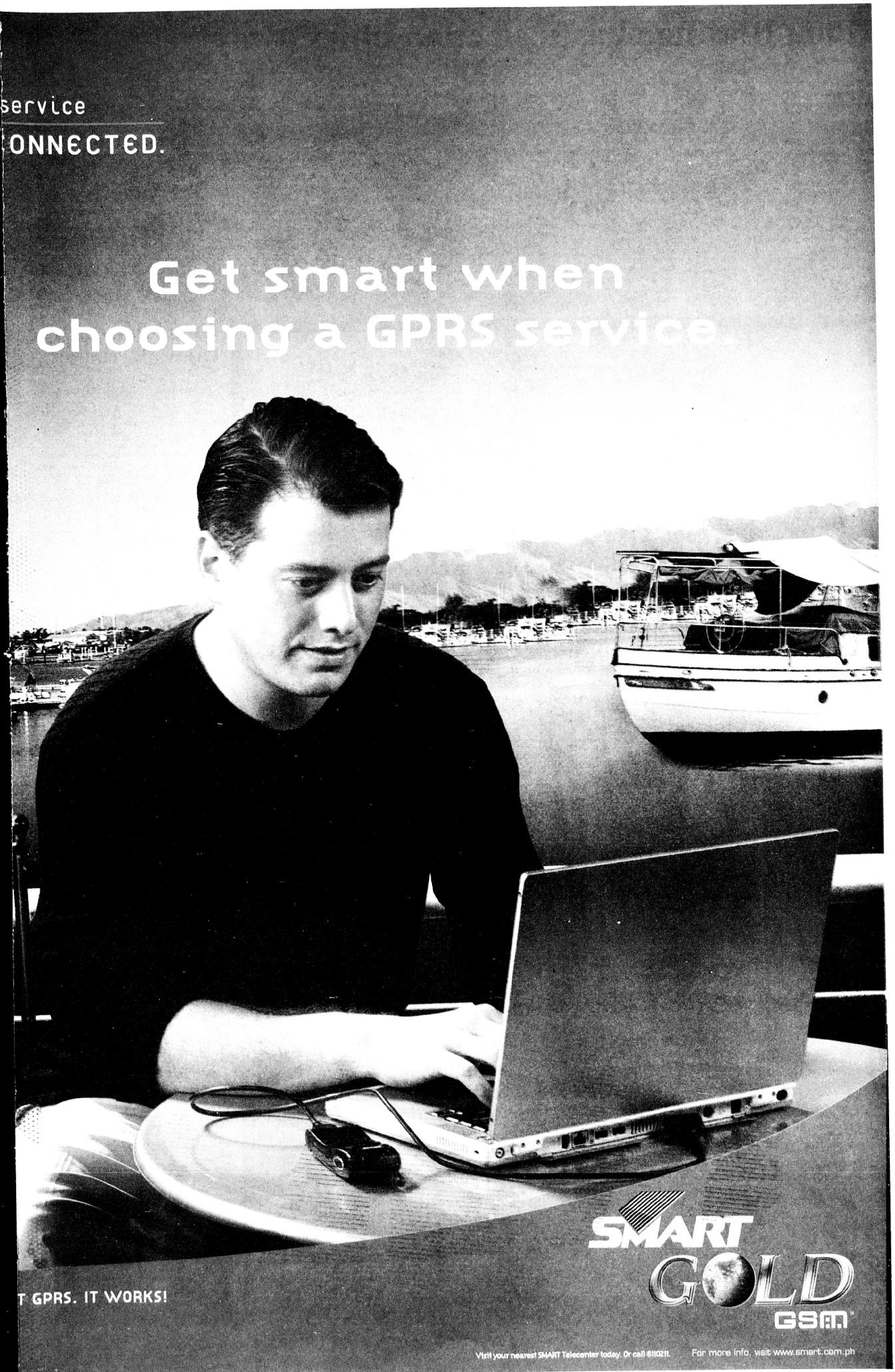
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Doña Buding chases election blues away

(From page F1)

The comedy was a fund-raiser for Gantimpala Theater Foundation. **Mia Gutierrez** welcomed the first-nighters and acknowledged the theater company's founder, **Tony Espejo**, who also directed the show.

Jaya squealed with delight when Buding said she would ban everyone who was dark-skinned and *pango*. **Florante** of the "Ako'y Isang Pinoy" fame made a rare public appearance.

Who else have seen "Buding 4 Senator," the season's biggest comedy relief? "Miss Saigon" alumni **Robert Seña**, **Bimbo Cerrudo** and **Miguel Vera** and Trumpets' **Audie Gemora**, **Menchu Lauchengco** and **Carlo Orosa**.

Catch Nanette—no, catch her show, that would be easier—as she runs the election theme aground and sends her audience rolling with laughter when "Buding 4 Senator" repeats on May 10 at Onstage Greenbelt and goes back to the Music Museum on May 11. Get your tickets from select Bench boutiques (or call Charlotte 887-2311 local 175). Last show is on May 12. Call Gantimpala office at 895-8314 or897-9986.

'Bulaklak ng New York'

A POPULAR young actress has once again quietly faded from the scene. Almost three years ago she made headlines by turning her back on her flourishing career in the name of love. Father of the child was an equally popular young action star known for his temper. Fast-forward two years later, young actress picks up the pieces of her career and makes a successful comeback, winning an acting award in the process. Today, she is quietly living in a New York apartment with a maid, her mother and daughter, pregnant and wallowing in the wealth of a newfound, much older lover who recently made the front-page news as part of a duo that tried to pull one over the FBI. Clearly, the actress seems to have a penchant for the wrong kind of man—whether young or old.

Hot and cold

THIS thirtysomething dramatic actress has sexual preferences that blow hot and cold. She has been linked to gorgeous men, one of whom sired her son and another an actor-politician to whom she was briefly married. In recent years, she has shown a preference for the same sex. She was making sweet music with one of the female network producers until the affair soured. Lately, she has been observed trying to educate herself in the ways of those to the manner-born. The reason? She has found a new love in an heiress from one of QC's wealthiest families and is said to have moved to a Forbes Park address.

Pleasant discovery

AN INQUIRER reporter was pleasantly surprised the morning she woke up from an overnight stay at Discovery Suites in Ortigas Center. A copy of the INQUIRER was waiting at her door. What was so unusual about that? All the other rooms in the hotel had another daily delivered to their rooms.

Clearly, this is one hotel that does its homework and goes the extra mile in pampering its guests.

Confronted by our sorrows

WE came, to paraphrase poet **Sy Margaret Baldwin**, face to face with our sorrows that early morning of Tuesday when Erap loyalists stormed Malacañang with their sticks and stones and broken bones in a bid to unseat someone they perceived was put there by the rich ruling class. After days of rallying behind ousted **President Estrada** at Edsa and being pitted by **JV Ejercito**, **Enrile**, **Honasan**, **Lacson**, **Santiago** and **Aquino** against the so-called elite, they bulldozed their way to Mendiola, by sheer number, assaulting cops, soldiers and even the media. Some of us thought we saw drugged dreams in their eyes. Others of us observed the despair.

It was horrifying to watch it all on TV, and it ought to shake us off the illusion that we are on our way to recovery as a nation.

Something was missing in the footages taken at Edsa during that six-day rally. There was no hint of hesitation on the part of the rabble-rousers at recommending assault. There was no evidence of reluctance in suggesting mass suicide. And when the going got tough, the leaders vanished into their posh villages.

LVM

THE DEPRESSING thing about Miriam is that she won't shut up. She lips off every chance she gets—tempting the gods with her delicious offer to face the firing squad one day, threatening to jump off the plane another moment and daring anyone to face the barrel of her gun should they attempt to arrest her, harassing us with her fake American accent. She has "loose vowel movement," says one text message. Or verbal diarrhea, says another.

The even more depressing thing about Miriam is that she is not likely to change.

Gifts Mom can enjoy all year

MAKE Mother's Day special this year with delightfully packaged flowers from Designer Blooms.

The foremost home and office floral accent shop brings art to its packaging with imported wrappers in various textures and colors. Their most innovative design is a vase-like wrap for single-stemmed roses or calla lilies using French crepe curled paper. A minimalist origami-type package design with raffia ribbons is another interesting creation.

Designer Blooms' famous silk and dry floral arrangements are ideal gifts, guaranteed to remind moms of their special day the whole year. Selected shops also carry fresh flowers, including meter-long single-stemmed red roses called Super Select.

Rica Garcia, Designer Blooms' founder, set up her first flower kiosk some seven years ago upon her return from the United States where her artistry for floral creations flourished. The shop has received the Retailer of the Year award from Retailers Association of the Philippines in the medium business category and excellence in customer service from the Ayala Development Corp.

SPECIAL imported curling crepe paper forms part of the Mother's Day packaging of Designers Blooms.

FOUR-YEAR-OLD Aldo Zamora holds a meter-long fresh Super Select rose from Designer Blooms. The hybrid roses will be available for Mother's Day in select shops.

Summer GETAWAY
Only One Wrapper to Win
1 Romantic Retreat Showcase
4 Family Paradise Showcase

1st Prize
4 Trips for 2 to Pacific Island Club, Saipan + $200
2nd Prize
4 Trips for 2 to Pearl Farm, Davao + P5,000
3rd Prize
20 winners of P5,000

1st Prize
4 Trips for 4 to Bali, Indonesia + $200
2nd Prize
4 Trips for 4 to Hotel Fleuris, Palawan + P5,000
3rd Prize
20 winners of P5,000

Put those shades on 'cause Nestle and Goya are taking you to the best beaches here and abroad. All you need is one wrapper for a chance to win cash or exotic holiday packages. Hot stuff!

MECHANICS OF THE
"NESTLE SUMMER GETAWAY" PROMOTION

HERE'S HOW

1. Write your name, address, telephone number, and signature on a piece of paper.
2. Attach this to a single wrapper, label, or pouch of any of the following Nestle or Goya Confectionery products: Kit Kat, Nestle Classic Milk Chocolate, Nestle Classic Eclairs, Fox's, Goya Chocolate Coins, Goya Cubes, Goya Silver Cup, Goya Golden Crown.
3. Drop your entries at the NESTLE SUMMER GETAWAY drop boxes at designated Supermarkets and Groceries.
4. Or you may send your entries to any of the following:
   a) Goya, Inc., 23 M. Tuazon St., Parang Marikina City
   b) Nestle Philippines, Inc., 31 Plaza Drive, Rockwell Center, Makati City
   c) Or any Nestle office near you.
5. Draw date is on July 7, 2001 and Cut off date is on June 30, 2001.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. All prizes are tax [illegible].
2. All prizes are non-convertible to cash but transferable.
3. Total prize to be given away per region (GMA, LUZ, VIS, MIN) are as follows:

Adults	1st Prize	Trip for 2 to Pacific Island Club, Saipan + $200.00
	2nd Prize	Trip for 2 to Pearl Farm, Davao + P5,000.00
	3rd Prize	5 x P5,000.00
Family	1st Prize	Trip for 4 to Bali, Indonesia + $200.00
	2nd Prize	Trip for 4 to Palawan + P5,000.00
	3rd Prize	5 x P5,000.00

4. Draw date is on the 7th of July 2001.
5. Entries will be drawn per showcase per region.
6. The first valid entry drawn in each showcase per region will be declared as the winner.
7. A winner can only win once per showcase per draw. However, a person can win in another showcase in the same draw.
8. Three-fourths of the wrapper, label, pouches or cap must be intact to qualify as an entry.
9. All raffle promotion winners will be notified via telegram, which will indicate how and where they may claim their prizes. Prizes not claimed within 60 days from the date of receipt of telegram shall be forfeited only upon approval of DOH-BFAD.
10. Winners must present any two valid identification papers among the following along with the original telegram of notice when claiming their prizes: Company ID, Birth Certificate, NBI Clearance, Passport, Marriage, Driver's license or SSS ID.
11. A winner for a particular region must be a resident of the area of coverage.
12. All prizes are transferable provided claimants present the following: Letter of authorization from winner, any two valid identification papers or IDs of winner, any two valid identification papers or IDs of claimant and original telegram sent by Goya, Inc.
13. Prizes are subject to availability. Should a stated prize be unavailable for whatsoever reason, Goya, Inc. reserves the right to substitute the prize with another of similar value as deemed suitable by Goya, Inc.
14. Winners can claim their prizes at the nearest Nestle office [illegible] date indicated in the telegram.
15. All winners will shoulder travel/transportation expenses incu[illegible] in the course of claiming their prizes.
16. An authorized representative from the Bureau of Food and Drugs will be present to supervise the raffle draw.
17. Goya, Inc.'s decision in concurrence with the DOH-BFAD is deemed final.
18. Nestle reserves the right to publish the names and/or photographs of winners for advertising and publicity purposes. All winners will be notified by mail.
19. All employees of Goya, Inc., Nestle Philippines, Inc., its advertising and promotion agencies, its packaging supplier, their spouses and relatives up to the second degree of affinity or consanguinity are not qualified to join.

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THE INTERNET COMPANY OF PLDT

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is looking for qualified individuals to fill in the following positions:

BILLING AND COLLECTION MANAGER

➲ Female/Male; Graduate of Business Administration and other related course; Five (5) years experience in billing and credit management, accounting or auditing, three (3) years of which in a supervisory position; Computer literate with good working knowledge in MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint; Above average oral and written communication skills; Customer-oriented and willing to work extended hours.

FINANCIAL SERVICES SUPERVISOR/ANALYST

➲ Female/Male; Graduate of a four-year business related course; At least two (2) years relevant experience in financial planning, cost and general accounting, working capital management and audit; Above average oral and communication skills; Proficient in MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint; A team player and willing to work long hours.

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE ANALYST

➲ Female/Male; Graduate of a four-year business or accounting related course; With at least two (2) years experience in bookkeeping or accounting work; Proficient in MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint; Customer-oriented and willing to work long hours.

Interested applicants may send in their résumés to:

The Human Resources
INFOCOM Technologies, Inc.
30th Floor PLDT Tower II, 6799 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
e-mail: jobs@info.com.ph

ADB

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

ASSISTANT SYSTEMS LIBRARIAN

The Position

- Reports directly to the Chief Librarian;
- Coordinates automated services implementation, updates user documentation in ADB's Library, and arranges training for staff in the use of library systems;
- Performs workflow analysis, contributes to development of specifications for the enhancement of information systems in the Library, and monitors library systems projects implementation;
- Maintains the integrated library system by managing the day-to-day operations, executing processing flow in accordance with operating procedures, maintaining various system records, designing forms, and extracting data for reports; and
- Participates in development and evaluation of Library's print and electronic collections; maintains the Library's website and undertakes special projects.

The Requirements

- College degree in Library/Information Science or equivalent combination of education and experience; Masters degree preferred;
- At least five years related professional experience, including hands-on use of bibliographic retrieval and networked information systems;
- Strong analytical, problem solving and organizational skills;
- Knowledge of current trends in electronic dissemination of information and library automation; and
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work in team

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 45 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. ADB staff are expected to serve in any location outside Headquarters. For further information, please visit www.adb.org and look for Employment under Resources.

Send CV and cover letter by fax or mail quoting Ref. No. 01-04CS by 11 May 2001 to:

Tel: (63-2) 632-4444
Fax: (63-2) 636-2550
E-mail: ss-jobs@adb.org

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
P.O. BOX 789, 0980 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Women are actively encouraged to apply.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

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among the top brands in the world distributed by U-Bix Corporation announces its vacancies for:

OFFICE MANAGER

(Code: PDI-OM)

- CPA, not over 35 years old
- With at least 3 years experience in the same capacity
- With knowledge of the principles and practices of modern accounting and financial administration
- Highly organized and can work effectively in a fast-paced environment

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

(Code: PDI-AE)

- College graduates, not over 28 years old
- At least one year field sales experience; exposure in sales of construction/finishing materials is an advantage
- Good communication skills, hardworking, assertive individuals who can stand challenges

Qualified applicants are requested to mail their resumés with photo and transcript of records to:

(POSITION CODE)
Recruitment and Training Group
1331 Angono St., J.P. Rizal, Makati City
or E-mail us at ubxhrd@i-next.net

UBX

***U-BIX CORPORATION**, a leading provider of office equipment, furniture and related office services, is now accepting applications for --*

SALES REPRESENTATIVES (PDI-SR)

(Metro Manila, Angeles, Sta. Rosa)

- College graduates, not over 28 years old
- At least one year field sales experience
- Good communication skills; able to provide prompt and accurate reports
- Hardworking, assertive individuals who can stand challenges

We offer full compensation during the training period

Qualified applicants are requested to mail their resumé with photo and transcript of records to:

(POSITION CODE)
Recruitment and Training Group
1331 Angono St., J.P. Rizal, Makati City
or e-mail us at ubxhrd@i-next.net

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MEDIA PLANNERS

☑ Graduate of Marketing/Psychology/MassCom
☑ With excellent communication skills
☑ Computer literate in MS Word and Excel
☑ A driven person with an inclination in data analysis
☑ With or without experience

Interested parties may send their resumé with a 2x2 picture addressed to:

Ms. Rose Barba at the 5/F Goldloop Tower Condominium
Amber Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. Nos. 633-9008, 633-8560, 633-5194

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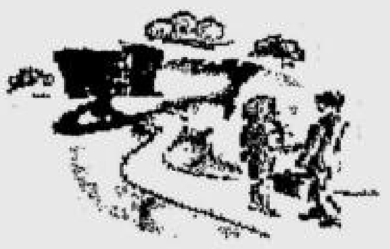

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SENIOR ACCOUNT MANAGERS

(Code: SAM)

❏ *Proactive and customer-centric professionals who will promote Oracle products and services in the following market sector - Financial (Banking & Insurance), Public Services, Telecommunications and Commercial/ Industrial,*

QUALIFICATIONS:

- At least five (5) years SUCCESSFUL track record of selling Information Technology products to large corporations/government agencies in any of the above mentioned market sector
- Ability to discuss strategic business intelligently with top management
- Both industry and enterprise wide experience helping customers with business information planning and/or core process improvement
- Ability to coordinate a sales team's effort across various customer settings (e.g. MIS, operating managers, top management) and orchestrate internal Oracle resources across regional and international boundaries.

E-BUSINESS SALES CONSULTANTS

(Code: ESC)

❏ *Highly innovative professionals responsible for the technical relationship with the customer and for ensuring that Oracle wins product evaluations in Applications.*

QUALIFICATIONS:

- BS or MS in Accounting, Business, Engineering, or Computer Science
- 5+ years experience within the software industry
- A minimum of 3 years experience working in a presales capacity supporting packaged software solutions or experience with Oracle's database and tools
- Experience in systems analysis and/ or client needs analysis
- Excellent written and interpersonal communication skills
- Proven analytical and problem solving skills
- Good project planning and time management skills
- Ability to build and support applications and/ or core products demo systems
- Functional expertise in any of the following areas: Financials, Manufacturing, Projects, CRM, or HRMS/ Payroll
- Knowledge of business systems applications
- Experience with SAP, PeopleSoft, Siebel, BAAN, or JD Edwards helpful
- Sales experience a definite plus

CHANNEL ACCOUNT MANAGERS

(Code : CAM)

❏ *Proactive and customer-centric professionals who will be responsible for producing required sales revenue within the channels sector exclusively through partner engagement*

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Strong Indirect sales experience, 8 to 10 years
- IT, Software industry experience
- Knowledge of and/or experience with channels business, indirect channel market, distribution trends, systems and service market is desirable
- Relationship and Account Management
- Solution Selling capability and Business management and review capabilities

CHANNEL DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

(Code : CDM)

❏ *Aggressive individuals who will be responsible for initiating, developing and expanding strategic alliance relationship with partners and who will assume a leadership role in high level strategic partner development activities*

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Technology pre-sales consultant with a flair for business development
- Good understanding of the Technology market and the players in that market
- Ability to understand the partner Training and Pre-sales needs/requirements
- Ability to work closely with CAMs
- Ability to design and roll-out demand generation programs

We challenge you to be part of a visionary, highly ambitious worldwide organization committed to providing our clients with leading edge solutions. We offer a career path, international training, and a remuneration package designed to compete with the best. Interested candidates must send their resume with salary history to :

The HR Director (e-mail address : HR-ID_PH@oracle.com)
ORACLE SYSTEMS (PHILIPPINES), INC.
19/F Pacific Star Bldg. Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City

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MasterCard

TECHNOLOGY & OPERATIONS MANAGER

POSITION

The successful candidate will be responsible for ensuring excellence in project management and operations support for new and existing MasterCard member financial institutions for credit, deposit access and advanced payment products in the Philippines.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Coordinate activities and projects between member financial institutions and MasterCard regional office operations and technology staff in implementing MasterCard products and services
- Credit/debit card and advanced payment systems operations and technology project management
- Products, services, systems and operations training for Philippine MasterCard members

QUALIFICATIONS

- Business or Computer Science degree
- At least 3 years experience in credit or debit card operations
- Meaningful experience in project management or systems development with demonstrated success in the implementation of credit card, debit card and advanced payment systems
- Strong project management, inter-personal and analytical skills required
- Effective written and verbal communication, presentation and listening skills
- Able to successfully coordinate multiple projects simultaneously in a matrix environment and manage a heavy workload in a multiple priority environment

Interested applicants may send their Curriculum Vitaé to:

MasterCard International Philippines, Inc.
714 Tower One & Exchange Plaza
Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue,
Makati City, Metro Manila

WALK-IN APPLICANTS WILL NOT BE ENTERTAINED, ONLY QUALIFIED APPLICANTS WILL BE CALLED.

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Kimberly-Clark PHILIPPINES INC.

Manufacturer of well-known and leading tissue paper and consumer products invites applicants to the following positions:

AUDIT ASSISTANT (AA-0506)

- Male/Female
- Certified Public Accountant
- A year exposure on audit related work will be an advantage (but not required)
- With working knowledge on various computer applications/systems (Microsoft Word, Excel, Access)

Those who meet the above mentioned requirements must submit a detailed resumé (indicate code number), transcript of records and recent ID photo and salary expectation not later than ***May 11, 2001*** *to:*

CODE NO: __________
HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGER
P.O. Box 1467 MCPO
Makati City

you may also send your resumé at:
hrd.ph@kcc.com
(please send in text format / no attachment please)

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WANTED: AMBITIOUS YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE HUMANITARIAN VISIONS AND DREAMS OF GETTING RICH!!

WE INVITE YOU TO BE PART OF OUR PROFESSIONAL TEAM WITH A NOBLE MISSION OF PROVIDING PEOPLE OPPORTUNITIES OF ACHIEVING THEIR LIFETIME DREAMS. ON TOP OF THIS, YOU CAN BRING HOME A MONTHLY MINIMUM OF P50,000.00 TAKE-HOME PAY PLUS A POSSIBILITY OF ACQUIRING YOUR OWN HOUSE & LOT AND A CAR.

YOU MUST BE A COLLEGE GRADUATE, BETWEEN 21-25 YEARS OF AGE, HARDWORKING WITH A SENSE OF MISSION TO HELP OTHERS, WILLING TO WORK IN THE FIELD, WITH A PLEASING PERSONALITY, AND GOOD COMMUNICATION SKILLS.

FOR INQUIRIES, PLEASE SEE ***GLENN MISLANG*** *BETWEEN 1:00 PM TO 5:00 PM AT* ***RM. 105, 10TH FLOOR COLUMBIA TOWER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, MANDALUYONG CITY****. BRING YOUR BIO-DATA, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS, AND 2 ID PHOTOS.*

Fighting Poverty in Asia & the Pacific

ADB

Asian Development Bank's overarching goal is to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of people in the Asian & Pacific region.

ASSOCIATE DATA COMMUNICATIONS ANALYST

The Position

- Responsible for the study, implementation and maintenance of the Enterprise Management System (EMS) and monitoring of data Local and Wide Area Networks (LAN and WAN);
- Evaluates EMS solutions available in the market;
- Studies, records, and documents ADB critical applications and services to be included in the EMS;
- Monitors the performance of the EMS and coordinates improvements and upgrades to the system;
- Studies and recommends procedures related to the EMS and records such procedures;
- Regularly submits EMS performance and outage reports describing problems encountered and resource requirements to improve quality of service;
- Keeps records of all data LAN and WAN components and maintains networks related documentation;
- Studies and recommends change control procedures related to the networks and keeps record of such procedures; and
- Studies new networking technologies relevant to ADB operations.

The Requirements

- University degree in MIS, Computer Science, Computer Engineering or related fields;
- At least five years' experience in the IT field with three years dedicated to the implementation and management of Enterprise Management Systems like Openview, Tivoli, Patrol or Unicenter;
- Experience in LANs, WANs, including knowledge of switching environment, LAN and WAN architecture and interconnection, TCP/IP and SNMP protocol;
- Experience in policy and procedure management issues;
- Familiarity with Windows NT, Lotus Notes and Cisco products; and
- Good organization and communication skills.

Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 45 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its support staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. ADB staff members are expected to serve in any location outside Headquarters. For further information, please visit www.adb.org and look for Employment under Resources.

Send CV and cover letter by fax or mail quoting Ref. No. 01-05CS by 11 May 2001 to:

Tel: (63-2) 632-4444
Fax: (63-2) 636-2560
E-mail: ss-jobs@adb.org

HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK
P.O. BOX 789, 0980 MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Women are actively encouraged to apply.

Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

ALIW BROADCASTING CORPORATION

And its affiliated companies presently needs the following:

LEGAL OFFICER

☑ Male, member of the Bar, with experience in handling quasi-judicial and judicial cases

ACTUARIAL MANAGER

☑ Male/Female, graduate of BS Math in Actuarial Science, not more than 35 years old with extensive training in Actuary

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

☑ Male, Registered Electrical Engineer, at least 35 years old, with 5 years experience as Electrical Engineer; with basic experience in PLC, Instrumentation, Mechanical and Electronic Technology

AUDITORS

☑ Male/Female, Accounting graduate, preferably CPA

PC PROGRAMMER

☑ Male/Female, with at least one (1) year experience in programming using FOXPRO for both DOS and WINDOWS

ADMIN. ASSISTANT

☑ Male, graduate of any business course; with professional driver's license

WRITER

☑ Male/Female, not more than 30 years old, MassComm graduate; at least 6 months experience in Radio Broadcast

BROADCAST TECHNICIAN

☑ Male, first class GRCO

ACCOUNTING CLERKS

☑ Male/Female, Accounting graduate, not more than 25 years old

MARKETING PERSONNEL/ ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

☑ Male/Female, college graduate, preferably with background in Sales and Marketing

NURSES/MED TECH/X-RAY TECH

☑ Male/Female, licensed Nurse, Medical Tech. and Radiological Tech.

GENERAL CLERK

☑ Male/Female, 20 to 35 years old, graduate of any business course

AUTOMECHANIC APPRAISER

☑ Male, 20 to 35 years old, Automechanic graduate

Interested applicants may come personally with Resumé, Transcript of Records and recent 2x2 picture at:

CENTRAL HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION
5th Floor, Dominga Building III, 2113 Chino Roces Avenue
corner Dela Rosa Street, Makati City
Look for: Mr. RYAN ILINON

Would you make the cut?

bench/

Bench, the country's biggest name in fashion retail, is opening its own Bench Beauty Salon soon. And you may just be a part of it! We are looking for the country's best beauty and hair experts to join us.

Salon Hairstylists and Make-up Artists

- Male or female
- Must have experience working in a salon
- Must know how to cut, style, color, perm, and straighten hair
- Must know the art of make-up application

Managers

- Male or female
- Must be a college graduate
- Must have pleasing personality
- Must be service-oriented
- Must be fluent in English, Tagalog

Salon Juniors

- Male or female
- Must have experience working in a salon
- Must have knowledge in styling, coloring, perming and straightening hair
- Must know the process of manicure and pedicure

Salon Trainees

- Male or female
- With or without salon experience
- Must be willing to learn/ apprentice

Successful applicants will enjoy the following benefits:

- ➢ Good compensation.
- ➢ A chance to work with one of the most prestigious companies in the country.
- ➢ Training under renowned hair and makeup experts Alex Carbonell and Juan Sarte III.
- ➢ A chance to train abroad.

See if you can make the cut!
Fax, e-mail or handcarry your resumes with 2x2 picture at:

Suyen Corporation
593 Tolentino Street, Santa Clara
Pasay City, Metro Manila 1304
Tel #: 8872311/ 8943822
Fax #: 8448150/ 8943983
e-mail address: personnel@benchtm.com

MANAGERIAL

PHILAM GROUP OF COMPANIES

Be a Part of the PHILAM Family

MARKETING & SALES EXECUTIVE

Will be expected to contribute to the company's growth in terms of revenue, profitability and market leadership through the effective execution or implementation of strategic programs. Will closely work with the different distribution channels for them to meet their respective sales or revenue targets and should be keenly sensitive to market dynamics and competitive activities. A seasoned executive with solid track record in marketing and sales ideally gained from a financial services organization. Familiarity with the managed health care industry will be an advantage.

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

College degree holder, ideally in his/her mid to late 30's. With experience in providing administrative support to a top executive in terms of providing background information needed for decision-making, preparing reports needed during meetings, composing correspondences and drafting speeches. Should be very fluent in oral and written English communication, attentive to details and with sense of urgency.

CHINESE MARKETING MANAGER

28-35 years old. Will be tasked with business, market and product development for the Chinese Market Department. With at least 5 years of sales and marketing experience, preferably gained from the financial services industry (i.e. banking and insurance). Must have a wide network of contacts in the Filipino-Chinese community. Should possess exceptional leadership capabilities and know how to speak Chinese. Willing to travel.

ACCOUNT OFFICER (TRUST)

College graduate with finance background, preferably female, not more than 35 years old. Equipped with at least 2 years' experience in account management. Will liaise with trust clients on matters related to the requirements of the trust accounts, determine the investible funds of the trust accounts and handle coordination with departments concerned. Should be articulate in English communication and highly customer-oriented.

TRUST OPERATIONS OFFICER

CPA with trust accounting/operations experience, not over 35 years old. Will handle the trust books as well as the books of the individual trust funds. Will take charge of the operations aspects of the Trust Group such as cashiering, compliance with BSP requirements on trust reserves, reporting, etc. Must show administrative capabilities, effective planning and decision making skills.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Female college degree holder with 5 to 10 years' experience in providing assistance to a senior officer, if not the top executive of a medium-sized or large corporation, preferably a multinational company. 35 to 42 years old, with highly developed skills in decision-making and task prioritization. Should possess well-developed social skills to be able to interact with different personalities. Articulate in English communication, particularly in composing correspondences. Literate in most MS Office applications and able to take down dictation, ideally using stenography.

CORPORATE PLANNING OFFICER

25-30 years old, Economics or Business Economics graduate, with an MA in Economics or MBA. Must have 2-5 years of work experience in economic research, corporate planning or other related fields. Highly creative and with excellent oral and written communication skills. Computer literate. Linkages with various economic and media institutions is desirable.

PROPERTY UNDERWRITER

Will be responsible for marketing, underwriting, preparing the policy and administration of the property business lines. Must be a licensed Underwriter. Male/female, 30 to 35 years old, preferably an Engineering graduate with at least one year of experience in property underwriting. Highly analytical, computer literate, can communicate and relate with people effectively.

We will offer competitive compensation and benefits packages to the right candidates. Qualified applicants may send their resumés, transcript of records and photos to the indicated address. Please write the position you are applying for if you are sending your resume via e-mail at Philamlife-HR.Recruitment@aig.com.

CORPORATE HR
PO Box 2167, Manila, Philippines

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: **www.ephilam.com**

An international NGO involved with reproductive health programs in the Philippines is in urgent need of a

Country Representative

PHILIPPINE COUNTRY OFFICE

Qualifications

A Master's Degree or equivalent in Public Health, Health Care Management, or related discipline; minimum 10 years experience in the health field, preferably in the planning, implementation and management of reproductive health programs; excellent English written and verbal skills; flexibility and capacity to adapt to changing priorities, and program direction; experience in proposal writing; ability to effectively deal with funding agencies and government health officials; and willingness to travel in-country and overseas.

Responsibilities

Overall operational management and supervision of the Philippine Country Office, its technical and support staff and its approved programs.

Benefits

We offer an excellent salary and benefits package commensurate with skills and experience.

We encourage all qualified, proactive and self-motivated senior health managers with the dynamism and energy to lead a team of equally capable staff to submit their letters of application with complete CV and references to:

Code: Country Director
P.O. Box 467 CPO, Pasay City

All applications must be received on or before May 17, 2001. Screening starts on May 21, 2001. Only qualified candidates will be contacted.

SCAD SERVICES (S) PTE., LTD.

Block 23, Phase IV, Philippine Economic Zone Authority,
Rosario, Cavite

If you're a dynamic, hardworking individual and possess the qualities we are looking for, then apply now and be a part of one of the largest wood manufacturing company in Asia.

COMPANY NURSE

- ☐ Female, 21-27 years of age
- ☐ Must be a Registered Nurse
- ☐ With at least 6 months experience
- ☐ Willing to work on a shifting schedule or do overtime work
- ☐ Can handle people and situations well
- ☐ Computer literate

COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS/MIS STAFF

- ☐ Male or Female, ages 21 up to 29
- ☐ Computer Science Graduate
- ☐ Knowledgeable in Visual Basic, SQL and troubleshooting

You can mail or hand carry your comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture and transcript of records at the above address. For inquiries, call telephone no. (046) 437-2486 or 437-0849. Look for Ghen or you can e-mail your resumé at **ghen_ferma@yahoo.com**.

TECHNICAL/PROFESSIONAL

BETA ELECTRIC CORPORATION

An established company that specializes in the design, manufacture, installation, commissioning and servicing of electrical power equipment and substation is in need of:

SALES MANAGERS

MALE, ELECTRICAL ENGINEER, 30 to 35 years old, at least 5 years sales experience in the INDUSTRIAL SECTOR, with proven track record and business contacts, computer literate, knows how to drive, team builder, dependable, results-oriented and can work under pressure.

- FOR UTMOST CONFIDENTIALITY PLEASE CALL 0917-8150908.
- GOOD COMPENSATION PACKAGE AWAITS THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS.

SALES ENGINEERS

MALE, ELECTRICAL ENGINEER, 21-28 years old, graduate of a reputable school with good scholastic record, computer literate, knows how to drive, proficient in oral and written communication. Preferably with work experience.

CADET SALES ENGINEERS

MALE, graduate of BSEE from a reputable school with good scholastic record, 20-25 years old, computer literate, work experience not necessary.

PRODUCT ENGINEER

Licensed Electrical Engineer, not more than 30 years old, preferably with related experience in product design.

PROJECT ENGINEER

Licensed Electrical Engineer, 21-30 years old, with work experience in high-rise construction.

FAMILY/COMPANY DRIVER

Male, not less than 30 years old, High School graduate, with at least 2 years driving experience, with excellent health, good moral character and with Professional Driver's License.

Apply in person with transcript of records, resumé and 2 x 2 ID picture or send your application to:

PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
Old Herdis Gym, Domestic Road, Pasay City
(opposite Airlink Aviation Flying School)
Tel#. 851-79-84 to 87
E-mail Address: betaop@tri-isys.com

The future is e-commerce

Global Sources leads the field in the development of new products to connect the worlds trading partners. We provide e-commerce solutions to buyers and their suppliers and offer exceptional opportunities in this most exciting of business areas. We are currently looking for a:

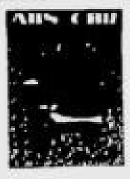
Senior Marketing Executive

You will be responsible for the effective completion of marketing projects and the implementation of various sales and collateral material. You must have marketing experience of five years preferably gained in an online environment. A university degree, good communication skills and computer literacy are essential qualifications.

A competitive remuneration package and a truly challenging, international and dynamic work environment awaits the right candidate. Interested parties should send their resume and contact details to any of the following:

Corporate Human Resources
online: career.globalsources.com
e-mail: asmhr@globalsources.com
fax: (632) 892-4087
post: P.O. Box 4597, MCPO, Makati City

global sources
www.globalsources.com



This is a call from nature...

CASE OFFICER

Qualifications:

- must be a graduate of Environmental Science or Environmental Planning and Management, preferably with post-graduate units;
- a degree in Bachelor of Laws (Ll.B) would be preferred;
- must have at least three (3) years previous work experience with environmental NGOs or related government agencies with Enforcement and Monitoring functions (i.e. DENR, LLDA, EMB, etc.)
- with above-average communication skills in both oral and written English and Pilipino;
- must be hardworking, self-motivated and willing to do field and liaisoning work.

All application letters complete with resumé, 2x2 picture, transcript of records and other credentials must be submitted not later than **Thursday, 10 May 2001** to:

The HRMD Manager
ABS-CBN Foundation, Inc.
Mother Ignacia Avenue, Quezon City

ABS-CBN
FOUNDATION, INC.

UBX

U-BIX CORPORATION, a leading provider of office equipment, furniture and related office services, has openings for ---

FACILITIES ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER (Code : PDI-FAM)

- Must be a Licensed Engineer, not over 35 years old
- With at least 3 years relevant experience
- With proven ability in facilities management and building construction
- Mature, results-oriented and willing to put-in long hours

ASSISTANT SALES ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER (Code : PDI-ASAM)

- CPA, between 28-33 years old
- With at least 3 years experience in the same capacity
- With knowledge of the principles and practices of modern accounting and finance administration
- Highly organized and can work effectively in a fast -paced environment

BOOKKEEPER (Code : PDI-BOOK)

- CPA, not over 26 years old
- With at least 2 years experience in the same capacity
- Patient, organized and detail-oriented
- Preferably living in Parañaque, Las Piñas, and nearby areas in Southern Luzon

PRODUCTION MANAGER (Code : PDI-PM)

- Graduate of ECE, EE, IE, or Computer Engineering
- Proficient in PC operation, male, between 28 to 35 years old
- At least 5 years experience as supervisor or manager from a manufacturing firm, preferably of office equipment
- With working knowledge in TQM/ JIT/ Good Housekeeping

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT SUPERVISOR (Code : PDI-MMS)

- CPA, preferably not more than 28 years old
- With at least 3 years experience in inventory monitoring and control
- Can effectively assist in inventory control, systems analysis and improvement
- Preferably living in Parañaque, Las Piñas, and nearby areas in Southern Luzon

AUDITORS (Code : PDI-AUD)

- CPA, proficient in PC applications, not over 30 years old
- With at least three years relevant work experience
- Willing to do fieldwork and handle provincial assignments
- Preferably living in Parañaque, Las Piñas, and nearby areas in Southern Luzon

Qualified applicants are requested to mail their resumes and transcript of records to:

(POSITION CODE)
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QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

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- ➢ Five years of relevant experience in the above areas of responsibilities
- ➢ Ability to work with minimum supervision
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- ➢ A team player

Interested applicants may send or e-mail their comprehensive resumé, 1x1 ID picture and credentials to:

Ms. Alma M. Inocentes
HRD Manager
WWF Philippines
26 Masikap St., Diliman, QC
E-mail: ainocentes@wwf-phil.org.ph

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- ☑ Strong selling skills

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ACCOUNTING STAFF

- ☑ Accounting graduate, not more than 27 years old
- ☑ Computer literate
- ☑ Can work diligently with minimum supervision
- ☑ Pleasing personality, trustworthy and hardworking

All applicants must be female, college graduate, with good oral and written communication skills. Interested parties may send their complete resumé with 2x2 photo and school credentials to 347 Ortigas Avenue, Greenhills East, Mandaluyong City or call 723-6880.

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Bio-data and Resumé; Picture a MUST
DEADLINE OF SUBMISSION: WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2001
Submit to: Yves Vincent, 2nd Floor, San Antonio Plaza, McKinley Road, Forbes Park, Makati City 1222
Email Us at: nafnaf@asiagate.net
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Attention: Ms. Teodie Perida / Mr. Sandy Zulueta
Dolmar Building, #56 Edsa, Mandaluyong City
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Address: 8th Flr. GlobalBank Center Bldg.
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E-mail: hrd@gsl.com.ph
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GLOBAL SALES LINK CORPORATION

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

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Makati City
E-mail: hrd@gsl.com.ph
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THE PERSONNEL OFFICER
Human Resources Department
Malayan Insurance Company, Inc.
5th Floor, Yuchengco Building
484 Quintin Paredes St., Binondo, Manila
E-mail: **malayan@malayan.com**
Website: **http://www.malayan.com**

ASIAN TERMINALS INCORPORATED

Publicly listed **Asian Terminals, Incorporated (ATI)** operates the Philippines largest international marine ports. **South Harbor** in Port of Manila; **Port of Batangas** cargo and passenger terminals, **Port of General Santos City** through a joint venture company; **Mariveles Grain Terminal**, the country's most modern bulk grains handler. It has also diversified into commercial logistics, providing supply chain solutions to major companies in the Calabarzon economic zone.

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7464 Bagtikan St., San Antonio Village, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 896-3244/46

(New graduates are welcome to apply)

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

3 Accounting Clerks

Qualifications

- Accounting graduate
- 21-28 years old, single, hardworking
- Computer literate

Please apply in person between 9:00 AM -- 5:00 PM Monday-Friday, bring your resumé with recent 2x2 photo and transcript of records if available to:

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Telephone Nos.: 824-0924; 776-8211;
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Please send your résumé, transcript of records and a 2 x 2 photo to:
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Herrera cor. Valero Sts., Salcedo Village, Makati City

Previous applicants need not apply.

Commitment in the workplace

By Ernesto G. Espinosa

(The author is currently the vice president of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP). He is also the assistant vice president, HRD and General Affairs of Fujitsu Computer Products Corp. of the Philippines.)

COMMIT comes from the Latin word "*committere*" which means to join, connect or entrust. Commitment can be viewed in terms of giving and honoring one's word, pledging to work to the best of one's ability and being responsible for one's work.

Giving and honoring one's word

When a person gives his word, he must honor it He commits to fulfill his promise. He commits to do what he said he will do and does it. Nothing is more important than a person's word.

In the work setting, there are deadlines to meet. When an employee commits to finish a report at a designated time, he must ensure that he does. If he fails to do so, he diminishes his credibility as a reliable employee and when the next project comes along, he will no longer be the one relied upon by his superior to do the job.

A case in point here is the tailor. The tailor usually indicates in the receipt the date the customer can get his clothes. As soon as he indicates the date, the tailor commits to deliver on such date. If the customer wants his clothes ready at an earlier time, both the tailor and customer negotiate and agree on a specific date. More often than not, however, the tailor reneges on his commitment. When the customer arrives at the designated date, the tailor makes excuses by saying, "Can you wait for 30 more minutes because your clothes are still being ironed", "Can you wait for 30 more minutes because we are still putting buttons on your shirts" The truth of the matter is, the clothes are not yet ready and the tailoring shop will use the 30 minutes to finish them. Given this situation, the customer gets frustrated. The tailor then loses a regular customer.

Pledging to work to the best of one's ability

Commitment in the workplace means exerting one's best effort to accomplish the tasks at hand. It means turning over excellent work. It means avoiding patchwork and doing away with the "*puwede na*" (it is about right) attitude.

There are employees who work fast but look at the quality of their work. Quality and quantity should always go together. There are employees, however, who turn in high quality work. They always keep on trying until they are able to perfect their craft. They are not happy with mediocre performance.

In a Japanese environment, standards are so high that quality of work is a way of life. Working to the best of one's ability can be seen in the dedication at work and time spent at the office by Japanese employees. In fact, working hours are almost always more than the hours spent with the family. This may seem strange among Filipinos and Americans whose belief is that spending longer hours at work means inefficiency because one is not able to make full use of the 8 working hours available to him each day.

Being responsible for one's work

"Man does not grow by saving his strength. Instead, he grows by stretching his strength and accepting the challenge of responsibility."

Being responsible is taking charge. It means not to be absent from work unless there are justifiable reasons to do so.

A committed employee is somebody who does not leave his work hanging. Even if he gets sick, he either calls the office to give instructions as to what to do with his pending work or attempts to report for work, just to "tie the loose ends", then leaves. An uncommitted employee does not care what happens to his work. In case he is absent, he does not bother to ensure continuity of his work He does not even call to check or ask a favor from a co-employee to look over his work while he is absent.

I once had a subordinate whose father died and who was, of course, expected to take a bereavement leave. He did. But on the day of his father's burial, he reported for work in the morning and when I asked him what he was doing in the office, he said that he was finishing his pending work. He just asked a friend to drive him directly to the memorial park in the afternoon for the burial service. This case is more of an extreme. But it is meant to show how some employees can really be committed that they will ignore their personal grief just so they can attend to unfinished business.

I asked a friend, "What drives you to excel?" Her answer was, "The bottom line is I want to be happy." True and come to think of it, commitment compels us to act in a desired manner because this value is already ingrained into our system. At least for many of us.

Reactions can be sent directly to ***ernie@fcpp.fujitsu.co.jp***

GENERAL

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3. **DEPARTMENT SUPERVISOR** - Female; single; not more than 30 years old. College graduate with at least 2 to 3 years experience as Department Supervisor in a department store. Aggressive and articulate.
4. **ACCOUNTING CLERKS** - Female; single; 22 to 25 years old. Accounting graduate with at least 6 months experience in accounting functions. Must be systematic and organized.
5. **PERSONNEL CLERK** - Female; single; a graduate of any behavioral science course from reputable schools. Preferably with experience in SSS, Philhealth and PAG-IBIG. Must be computer literate
6. **ELECTRICIAN** - Male; 25 to 30 years old. College or trade vocational school graduate, with at least 2 years experience as Building Electrician.
7. **INVENTORY CLERK** - Female; single; college graduate preferably with experience as Inventory Clerk in a department store. Must be computer literate
8. **TELEPHONE OPERATOR** - Female; single; college graduate with pleasing personality. Preferably with experience as Telephone Operator
9. **CASHIERS** - Female; single; 20-25 years old; at least 5'2" in height. College level with at least 2 to 3 years experience as Cashier in a department store. Honest and trustworthy.
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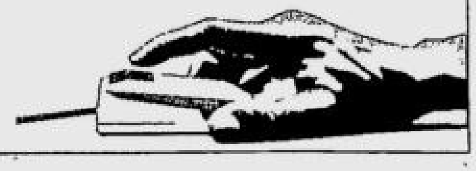

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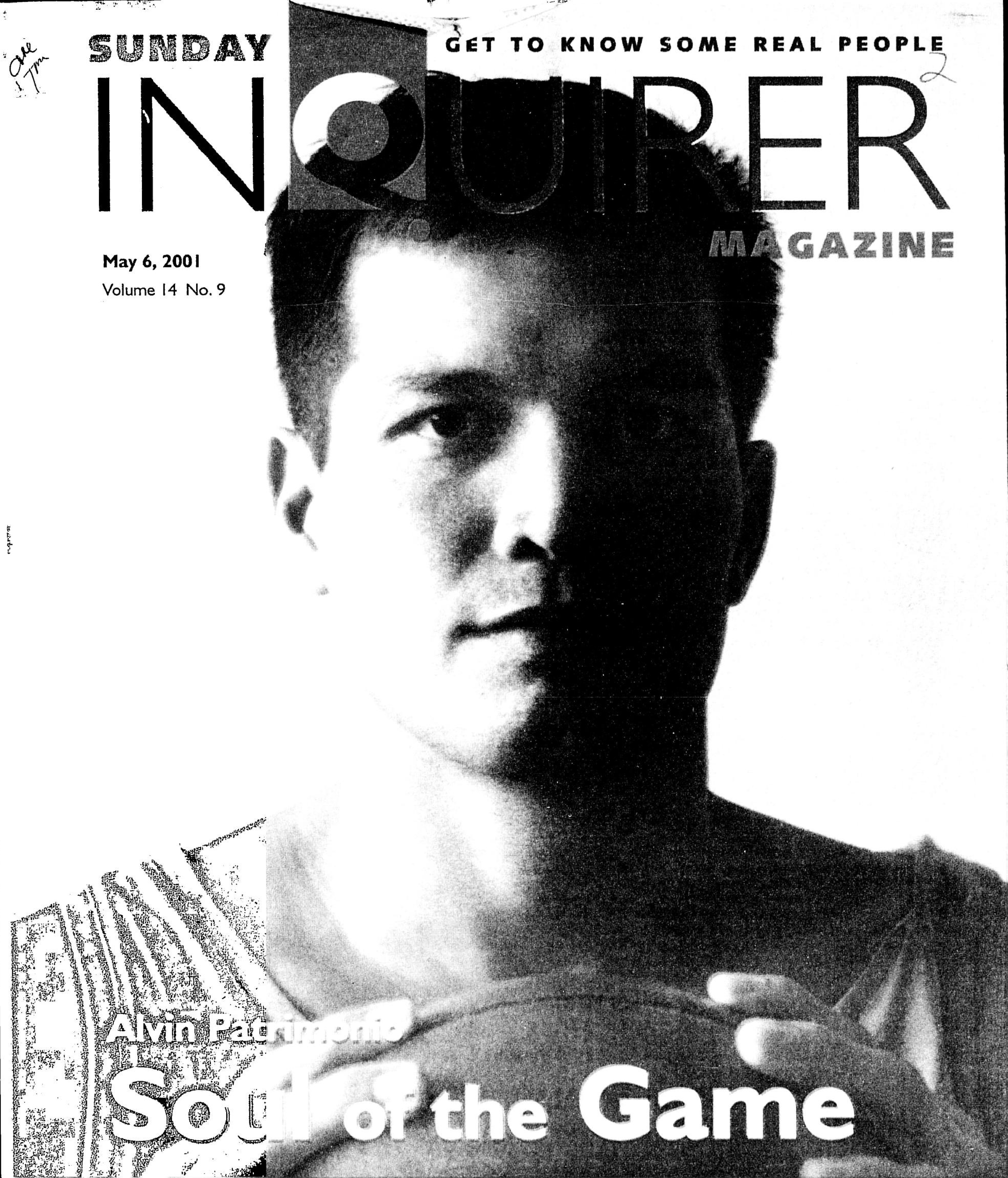
SUNDAY

GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

INQUIRER

MAGAZINE

May 6, 2001
Volume 14 No. 9



Alvin Patrimonio

Soul of the Game

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Horyo@cs.com

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Contributing Editor
Manila Media Monitor, Montreal, Canada
afernan@techie.com

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People for the Planet
by Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
photographs by Randy Hormillosa

For this Month of the Ocean, meet some hardy folk from Alabat Island, Quezon who, as their t-shirts proclaim, are saving the seas and our future

Healing the Sea

WHEN BENJIE VILLAFLOR DECIDED TO SETTLE IN ALABAT ISLAND, A FINGER OF LAND HEDGED BY THE PACIFIC OCEAN AND LAMON BAY SOME 14 KILOMETERS FROM MAINLAND QUEZON, HE WAS WARNED AGAINST USING A THATCHED ROOF FOR HIS HOUSE. "YOUR ENEMIES CAN EASILY THROW A LIGHTED MATCH ON IT AND BURN US DOWN," WORRIED HIS SCHOOLTEACHER WIFE, MILETTE.

Fishing is totally disallowed within the sanctuary because "fish, like chickens laying eggs, must not be disturbed in order to thrive"

The threats are easily an indication of the success of the project that Villaflor, as Municipal Agricultural Officer, has pushed relentlessly: the fish sanctuary and reservation started in April last year by four barangays in Quezon, Alabat Island. Part of the Fisheries Resource Management Project of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), the fish sanctuary hopes to re-stock the sea depleted by overfishing by closing a portion of it to fishing activity. A fish reservation area surrounds the sanctuary and here, fishing is allowed but only with such legal methods as fish pot, hook and line, simple nets and fish coral. Disallowed are illegal methods among them dynamite fishing and the use of cyanide and seine nets whose lead fringes drag across the ocean floor and destroy corals and marine life.

"Fish sanctuaries are crucial to our food security," says Oscar "*Ka* Oca" Santos, a project advocate and himself a native of the island. "But population explosion and destructive fishing methods continue to deplete our fish catch and marine resources," adds this post-war newsboy who later became a cause-oriented lawyer. As Quezon representative from 1987-92, *Ka* Oca managed to have Lamon Bay closed to commercial fishing, "until big-time fishing vessels lobbied for its reopening," he adds wryly. Today, notes *Ka* Oca, "the country imports some 200,000 tons of fish a year despite the fact that the Philippines, with its 7000 islands, is surrounded by water and that 832 out of our 1500 municipalities are on the coastline."

Life used to be much better, says this 71-year-old chair of the Galing Pook Foundation, a local governance and environment excellence awards-giving body. "I remember when I was eight and my father used to be part owner of a small launch named 'Lily.' We always had tuna that, when sliced crosswise, measured as big as a tennis racket. When fishermen cast their nets, they had to shovel their catch into sacks and *bayong*. On a fishing trip, you looked down and saw only fish crowding and covering the entire seabed."

But the needs of a burgeoning population have run down the sea's support systems, rues *Ka* Oca. "People cut down *bakawan* (mangroves), traditional fish nurseries, and use them as kindling. Without this shelter, small fish and fingerlings easily become prey to bigger fish." Corals, the feeding bowl of smaller sea creatures, are either blasted by dynamites or withered by cyanide, he adds, while illegal loggers cut down trees that hold the soil together. "The result is soil erosion and consequently, flooding, landslides and siltation that eventually bury the sea beds and corals." The fish sanctuary, he

Shifting tides: Bantay Dagat volunteers scour the seas for illegal fishers

"Political will is all it takes," says Mayor Oliveros (right). Ka Oca Santos (with glasses) discusses the project with Alabat Islanders (seated from left) Hebrado, Villaflor, Sisperez and Matrez.

adds, "allows the sea to heal itself."

But talk, *Ka* Oca realized, was hardly enough to persuade fisherfolk of the folly of their ways. He needed an alternative model to prove that fish sanctuaries work. He found one in Palompon, Leyte, where he dispatched Villaflor and several barangay captains to study the site.

The site visit prompted four of them from Quezon, Alabat—Efren Hebrado of barangay Guinhawa, Leopoldo Matrez of barangay Montaña, Felipe Tiamo of barangay Apad and Crespo Sisperez of barangay Mascariña—to put up their own group called Kasama Ka or *Kalipunan ng Samahan ng Mangingisdang may Magandang Adhikain sa Karagatan.* With technical assistance and support from BFAR, the group set up a fish sanctuary for their four barangays and passed a municipal ordinance to regulate fishing in the area. A 30-hectare fish sanctuary was marked off from an 800-hectare area in Lamon Bay. Fishing is totally disallowed within the sanctuary, "because fish are like chickens laying eggs. In order to thrive, they must not be disturbed," says *Ka* Oca. While fishing is allowed within the surrounding fish reserve, only legal fishing methods must be used. To protect their own residents, outsiders, especially commercial fishing vessels, are forbidden from fishing within the two-kilometer radius from shore.

To be sure, such restrictions set off a flurry of protests, hate mail and threats. Even the residents of the four barangays initially resisted the idea, concerned that limiting their fishing ground would eat into their already lean catch. Outsiders saw the municipal ordinance as unjust. "People would say, *eh di ba ang dagat ay para sa lahat?* (but isn't the sea open to all?)," recalls Hebrado. Local politics too has reared its ugly head. Says Quezon Mayor Saysay Oliveros: "Some local officials fear losing the support of big fishing agents who might put up their own candidates to rival them." Court cases have been similarly dismissed, says Villaflor, "out of humanitarian reasons," when violators happen to have strong connections in high places. People have been cautioned as well against volunteering for the Bantay Dagat (coast guard) patrols. "*Baka mapatay ka pa riyan* (you might get killed)," one remembers his wife warning him. Indeed, hostile elements snipped the cables attached to the buoys marking off the sanctuary limits. "We had to replace the buoys with bamboo poles sticking out of the water," says Villaflor. The group also constructed a floating hut where patrol volunteers can stay and monitor violations to the ordinance. "We have worked out the schedule so volunteers from the four barangays have to render patrol service only two days in a month," says Matrez. Public hearings and an information campaign from allied groups also eased in the project.

It is a dangerous job, admits Bantay Dagat volunteer Alex Angulo, 33. "The commercial fishers could be armed so I usually radio for back-up before I approach a vessel." Heated arguments sometimes climax with threats of violence using dynamites and fish spears. "*Aba'y subukan laang nila!* (Well, we dare them!) " A veteran of run-ins with commercial fishers, Villaflor meets similar threats and challenges with a laconic, "*Sige, sa bawa't isang mapatay, sampu ang kapalit* (go ahead; kill one of us and ten will take his place)."

Walking on water: Despite the odds, the fish sanctuary works, say the people of Alabat Island, Quezon

But diplomacy works in most cases, says this MAO. "Violators often feign ignorance so we take them aside, explain the project to them and let them go," he says. "We're more lenient on small fisherfolk than on big commercial vessels." Ordinarily, violators get fined from P1,000 to P3,000 or get a jail term of 15 to 30 days, or both. Their municipal ordinance, says Hebrado, toned down to more realistic levels the Fisheries Code penalty of up to P20,000 in fines, "although we quote this figure if they're habitual violators or if they use illegal methods," he adds.

Meanwhile, to make up for the initial decrease in their catch, the group came up with alternative livelihood ideas to augment household income, mainly livestock dispersal or the raising of hogs and chickens. "Most of the islanders are fishers, but some of them also grow palay and backyard vegetables. The others depend on copra during the lean months when the *habagat* (monsoon winds) make the seas inhospitable," says Villaflor. A few enterprising souls have built fish cages where they cultivate *lapu-lapu*, that sell for at least P500 a kilo for the live ones.

Six months into the project and already, the people of Alabat Islands started seeing results. "Divers from BFAR who constantly monitor conditions in the sanctuary have told us that the marine life down there is thriving beyond expectations," says Villaflor. Patrol volunteers themselves reveal that their watch has become more profitable as they manage to haul in enough fish for next day's meal while on duty. Not only are the fish bigger, there are more varieties now. In fact, adds Villaflor, to the surprise of the islanders, sea cucumbers suddenly appeared within the reserve, bringing in a windfall for the project. "Dried sea cucumbers sell up to P1,200 a kilo because they're a valuable ingredient for Chinese, Japanese and Korean dishes," says Hebrado. The group is now studying how to culture sea cucumbers as another source of funding for the project.

Cultivating other funding sources for the project is crucial, says Villaflor. Although their budget has been approved, new disbursement restrictions from the Department of Budget and Management have choked the flow of funds. "We used to be able to give full-time Bantay Dagat volunteers an incentive pay of P2,000 a month but that's gone now," he adds. Their patrol boats too have seen better days and are coaxed into service mainly by volunteer mechanic Espiridion Oliveros. "When we run after faster fishing fleets, they mock us with a styrofoam sheet scrawled with '*babay!*,'" says Villaflor, shaking his head.

Mayor Oliveros, however, vows continued support for the project. "We've allocated a total of P200,000 of the Pamahalaang Bayan budget for the Bantay Dagat volunteers. After elections, we can already program the funds." At P20,000 a month for fuel and incentive pay for eight full-time volunteers, he believes the fish sanctuary project is entirely sustainable. "All it takes is political will."

Not to mention community spirit which, fortunately, the people of Quezon, Alabat Island, have an excess of.

Poetry

Body Piercing

The playing of cats
On the roof
Is just a myth,
Mystifying a
Hallowed blow
Of bodies abandoning
Their sheets,
Of whispers in
Between gasps,
Under a ceiling
Of silver stars,
Under the masquerading rain,
Deafening the gods
As the curse
Of lust unfolds
Which for a moment
Concealed within
Dusky four walls.
Thrusting so hard
(Yet thrust wasn't
Really there)
Piercing an orifice
A mouth, a throat
A crater, a hollow
So that, when the
Cats on the roof
Walk under
A ladder
Someone will fall
In a black hole
And we ask
Was it deceit
Or superstition?

Wilfred C. Antonio Jr.

Halik

Sa halik nagtalik
Mga pusong sabik

Sang iglap pangarap
Tila nakapkap

Nahimok tumibok
Pusong mapusok.

Lani T. Montreal

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine is accepting contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed a copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <sim@inquirer.com.ph>

LIVING IN THE HIGHEST

The Advantage of Failure

Resurrection power at work within you everyday

by Pete F. Galvez

WHILE WATCHING THE 73RD ANNUAL Academy Awards a few days ago, there was no doubt in my mind how the Oscar winners got to be winners. Hard work. Dogged determination. Talent. Experience. Discipline. Team work. The pursuit of excellence.

How about failure?

Well, without failure along the way, success may not smell as sweet, not as fulfilling, not as exhilarating! The "E" channel on cable tv reveals all kinds of failures of quite a number of Hollywood denizens—screen writers, directors, actors and actresses—before they hit success. Even greatness. This has been that way starting from way back

> God ... is able to do IMMEASURABLY MORE than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us ...
> EPHESIANS 3:20

"America's sweetheart" of the silent screen, and one of the first film stars, referring to her own experience said, *If you have made mistakes, even serious mistakes, there is always another chance for you. And supposing you have tried and failed again and again, you may have a fresh start any moment you choose, for this thing that we call "failure" is not the falling down, but the staying down.* MARY PICKFORD (1893-1979)

Is failure necessary? Everyone, no exception, has experienced failure (for aren't we all imperfect?). You may be in the midst of one right now. Here's comfort for many: *If at first you don't succeed, relax; you're just like the rest of us.*

And for those who've risen from their personal "predicament" (including mine) they have realized, and I believe in this, that our mistakes and failures (even circumstances beyond our control) are our greatest teachers.

It is defeat which educates us. RALPH WALDO EMERSON

Consider this "failure" —

Born on the backwoods of Kentucky in 1809, he worked as a rail splitter, flatboatman, storekeeper, postmaster and surveyor before he became a lawyer. Altogether his formal education added to about a year. His is a classic case of a man who really dares to fail. Failed in business in 1831. Defeated in legislator in 1832. Again failed in business in 1833. Nervous breakdown in 1836. Defeated for speaker in 1838. Defeated for elector in 1840. Defeated in congress in 1848. Defeated for senate in 1855. Defeated for vice president in 1856. Defeated for senate in 1858. Yet he had this determined attitude: he said, *"To remain as I am is impossible, I must die or be better . . "*

Finally in 1860 Abraham Lincoln was elected as the 16th and one of the greatest presidents in American history. (*Dare To Fail*, published by *Hardknocks Factory*)

Preston Bradley relates that *I've never met a person, I don't care what his condition is, in whom I could not see possibilities. I don't care how much a man may consider himself a failure, I believe in him, for he can change the thing that is wrong in his life any time he is* ***ready*** *and* ***prepared*** *to do it. Whenever he develops the desire, he can take away from his life the thing that is defeating it. The capacity for reformation and change lies within.*

Get ready. The readiness and preparedness Bradley speaks of includes having been immersed in some ponderables:

1. Maybe the Lord allows people to fail because that is the only time they would ever think of Him. For He knows, as countless have experienced, that . . .

2. *Often the doorway to success is entered through the hallway of failure. And . . .*

3. *Often we assume that God is unable to work in spite of our weaknesses, mistakes, and sins. We forget that God is a specialist; He is well able to work our failures into His plans.* (ERWIN W. LUTZER) Of course, this becomes operative in the lives of those who have submitted to Him after realizing they can't simply hack it on their own no matter how hard they've tried. (Many tried "I did it my way" and have indeed become successful in their careers but miserable failures in their family life, therefore lacking in essential balance and terribly missing genuine fulfillment and fullness of life. What a waste if we're not enjoying life as the Author of Life planned for each one of us. Think of Marlon Brando, Elvis Presley, Liz Taylor, Marlyn Monroe. And some Makati top executives you may personally know.)

God is not a gate-crasher. He works only in people who allow Him to.[1] This applies the principle of Christ's death and resurrection in my life whereby a paradox takes place: I die so that I may truly live. My weak, destructive Self dies on the cross with Him,[2] so that I may rise with Him in resurrection from death to a new life.[3] Only then can real, durable change take place.

The greatest miracle. It's not being cured of cancer or some such. *The greatest miracle that God can do today is to take an unholy man out of an unholy world, and make that man holy and put him back into that unholy world and keep him holy in it.* LEONARD RAVENHILL (1867–1942). Today countless Christians the world over can attest to this. (By the way, there's nothing complicated about the definition of holiness. Holiness is simply obedience to God. And God gives you the desire and power to obey Him.[4])

Failures?

Watch what happens when you believe that *The same power that brought Christ back from the dead is operative within those who are Christ's. The Resurrection is an ongoing thing.* LEON MORRIS.

It's the power of God at work in you[5] — everyday! If you allow Him.

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[1] See Revelation 3:20 • [2] Galatians 2:20 • [3] See Romans 6:3-7 • [4] Philippians 2:13 • [5] Ephesians 3:20

Cover Story

by Ruel S. De Vera

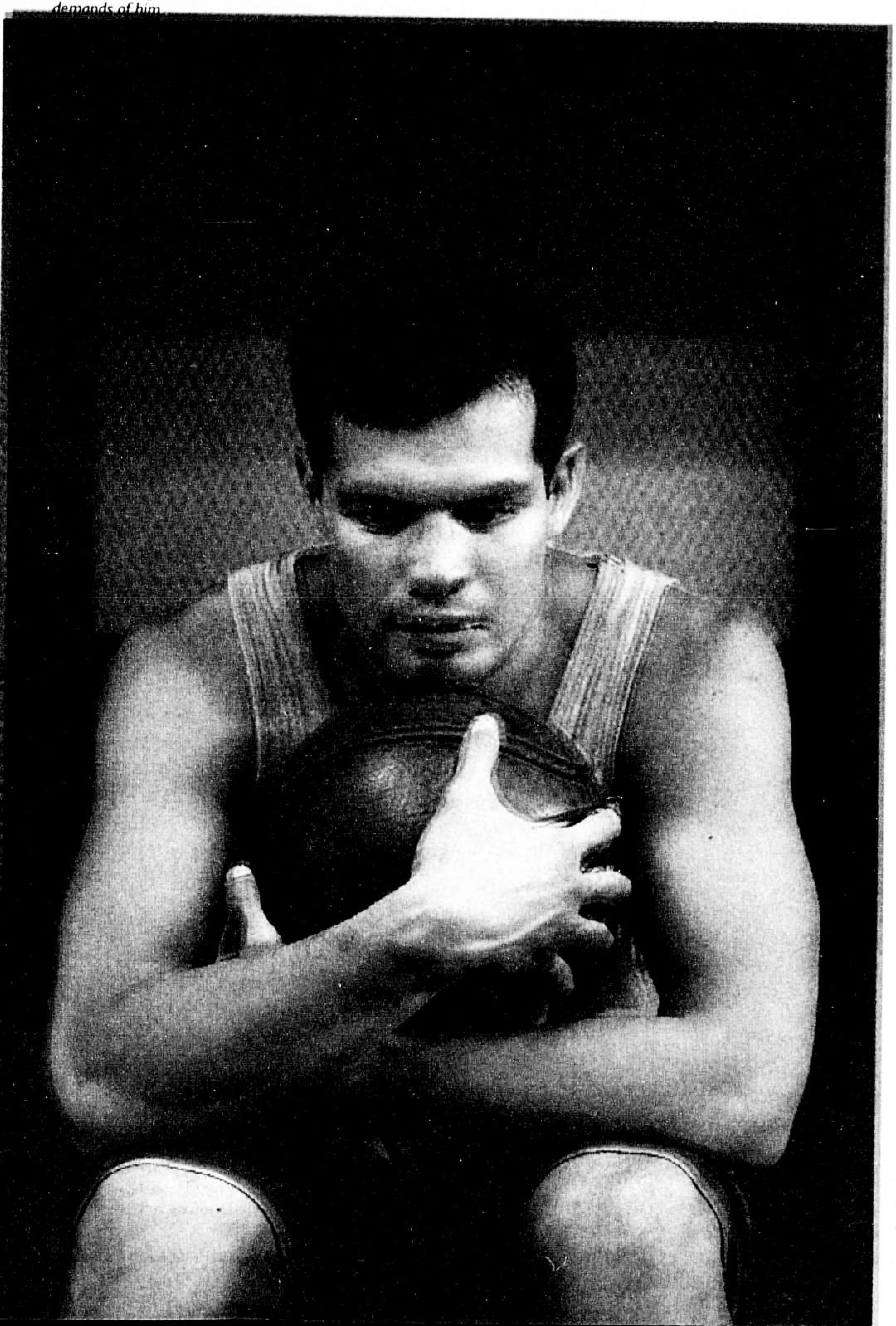
photographs by Ernie U. Sarmiento

With faith renewed and game intact after 13 seasons, Alvin Patrimonio exemplifies the Filipino's enduring love for the game

Spirit Warrior

HOW MANY TIMES HAS HE RISEN, ABOVE THE SEA OF CLAWING HANDS, TO REACH FOR THE PRIZE, LEATHER IN THE SHAPE OF A GLOBE? HOW MANY TIMES HAS HE THROWN HIMSELF TO THE FLOOR, CHASING THAT BALL? HOW MANY TIMES HAS HE HELD THE WORLD IN HIS HANDS WITH TIME EXPIRING? FOR ALVIN PATRIMONIO, IT'S NOT NEARLY ENOUGH.

Alvin has always given whatever the game demands of him.



"Because God gave me this talent, I want to maximize it. Nothing's permanent in the world, so I always give it my all," says the soft-spoken basketball superstar. One may think he's just saying all the right things, yet his remarkable history reveals the life of a person who has turned basketball into a way of life.

Now in his 14th season of pro ball, the 34-year-old 6'4" forward continues to play the game at its highest level, refusing to let time slow him down. He has scored more than 10,000 points, has played more games consecutively than any other player, and, together with all-time great Ramon Fernandez, keeps four Most Valuable Player Awards. At the start of the 2000 season, the Philippine Basketball Association named him one of its 25 greatest players. "For me, he is clearly one of the best players of his time," Purefoods coach Eric Altamirano remarks.

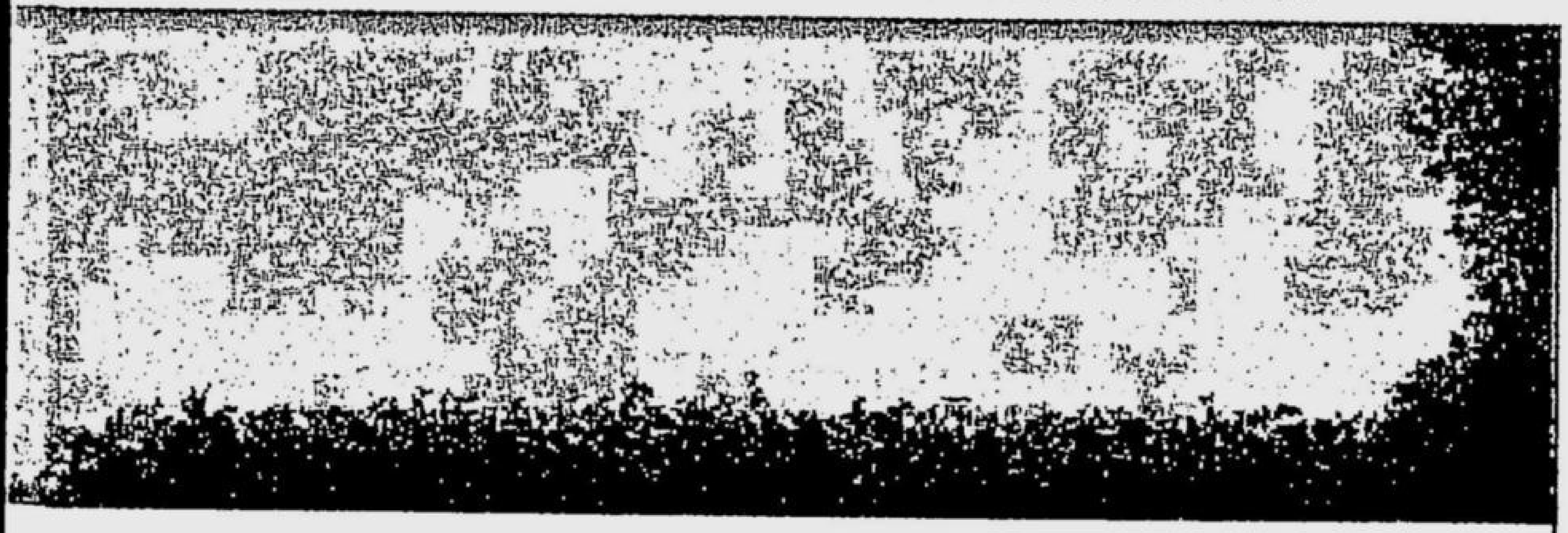
He remains the heart and soul of the Purefoods franchise. He is a throwback, an old-school superstar who lives only to compete. And now, Alvin Patrimonio knows what really matters in the game and in his life.

BELIEVE it or not, the young Alvin was not interested in basketball. The second in a brood of four, he was born November 17, 1966 to Angel and Ophelia Patrimonio. "I was really into chess and other board games like Game of the Generals," he says in Filipino. The tall but thin Alvin was already 10 when his father gave him a ball and put up a hoop in the backyard of their Paco home. "I was playing against my uncles, and they were taller than me," he remembers, "and that's when I first developed my character as a player who refuses to lose. I would cry when I lost. I really wanted to beat them."

That soon led to stints in the local leagues at 12. Grown taller, he had built a reputation for working hard and taking punishment by the time he played for four years at the Mapua Institute of Technology. As when he was younger, he learned to lose before he won as the Cardinals struggled in the National Collegiate Athletic Association. But Alvin had an epiphany in 1984. "There was a tryout for the national team," he explains, "I really wanted to make it." Despite all his efforts, he was cut. "But it was then that I decided to push myself." He became the NCAA's MVP the next year. His career took off as he joined Yco Paints in the Philippine Amateur Basketball League. In the ensuing years, he became a dominant force in the PABL, winning championships for the RFM franchise, and MVP plums for himself.

Now he wanted to move up to the next level. In 1988, he joined the new Purefoods team in the PBA's second conference. For many, getting to the pros is an achievement in itself. But for Alvin, the achievement was just starting.

RELYING on power and smooth low post moves, Alvin emerged as one of the Hotdogs' go-to guys. "I had always dreamt of joining the PBA even when I was still watching the games on TV when I was young," he smiles. "My team was Toyota, and my favorite was Mon Fernandez." Fernandez would become his first coach in the pros before being traded to rival San Miguel Beer. Alvin would then find himself battling Fernandez and his other idol, Ginebra's Robert Jaworski, during the games, an experience he cherishes.



Additionally, Alvin's clean-cut, handsome features and kilowatt smile made him a fan favorite. He appeared in pinups and in a movie. Even then, though, he knew that it was the game that mattered. "When I step onto the court," he says resolutely, "all I see are the goal, my coach and my teammates. Nothing else." After the Fernandez trade, Alvin began his transition into becoming Purefoods' leader. The Purefoods players followed him all the way to five championships as the Hotdogs soon became one of the league's most popular teams. Respected sportswriter Recah Trinidad says that it's Alvin's "pleasant Mr. Clean image" that sets him apart. "The first time I saw him play on the big-time court, at the height of the Mon Fernandez era, I readily swore he was superstar material. He had the build. He had rhythm and grace. I liked his timing, which appeared inborn."

It wasn't all skills for Alvin. "I became a leader through my play. I give 100 percent in practice, 100 percent in the game. My teammates began to follow me when I put all my heart on the court," Alvin says. True enough, a TV sportscaster dubbed him "Captain Lionheart" for his gutsy play. This monicker soon evolved to "The Captain," a testimony to his leadership. In fact, his teammates call him "Cap" even off the floor. He is known for being a gentleman, even in the unfriendly shaded lane. "It was how my parents brought me up; they taught me not to fight with others. I react sometimes when it gets rough, but I keep my mental focus." Friendly and self-effacing away from the game, he becomes intense once he enters the game.

Altamirano, who has played against and coached against Alvin in the past, states: "Alvin leads by example. He is a quiet leader but shows he can be depended upon at all times. He's the hardest working person on the team and it rubs off on the other players. He practices like he plays and he hates missing practice."

APPARENTLY, he detests missing games, too. Perhaps the most fascinating of Alvin's records is his streak of most consecutive games played. Alvin has played 473 games straight for Purefoods at the end of this year's All-Filipino Conference. Putting that streak in perspective, that means that he has not missed a game since October 20, 1992. The last two years, he played through a string of painful injuries. But he played all the same, donning protective knee braces and plastic masks. Alvin credits his endurance to a daunting fitness regimen. "Back in 1996, Coach Eric was our assistant coach and he suggested that I work out during the off-season so I'd be in great shape when the season starts," Alvin reveals. That meant no long vacations and no taking it easy even when there are no games to play.

Add to that his versatility. "Alvin is the rare athlete who can play any position," Altamirano notes. "He is really known for his post moves. Even if he is a little short to play in the post, he won his MVPs playing there." Admitting he has lost a step or two as the years go by, Alvin has fit his game to his team's needs. "Alvin is a very smart player and he has stayed this long because he has learned to develop new moves," Altamirano continues. "He surprises me every time. He adapts. This year, he has developed a new aspect of his game—the outside game. He has never stopped growing as a player." Whereas Alvin has always been a virtual Microsoft Office of moves in the low post, he has now fine-tuned his jump shot to a point where he can roam outside the paint and pop with impunity—even from three-point country. "It's something my coaches told me to learn so that I wouldn't become predictable." He also possesses a nimble mind, capable of breaking down every sequence of every game.

Trinidad credits Alvin's staying power to "a playing style that has blended well with his years. He has slowed down, but he has not lost his quickness. He operates effectively in the spurts. What he now lacks in power, he makes up for in skills." Yet his determination goes beyond strength or technique. Those countless unseen undergoal battles and his historic streak are fueled by something else. "It's all in the heart. Talent only gets you so far."

PERHAPS he could miss that one game. In June 1998, Angel Patrimonio, Alvin's father, died. It was a Friday morning. Alvin played that night, a Purefoods loss. They had a game that Sunday. He played, keying a Purefoods victory over SMB and shedding tears in dedicating the win to his late father, whom he called "the pillar of my career."

"He really encouraged me. When I made varsity, he would pick me up every day after practice. He motivated me all throughout, told me what I was doing wrong or when I'm slacking off," Alvin remembers. "When I played that Sunday, it was like he was inside me."

To page 15

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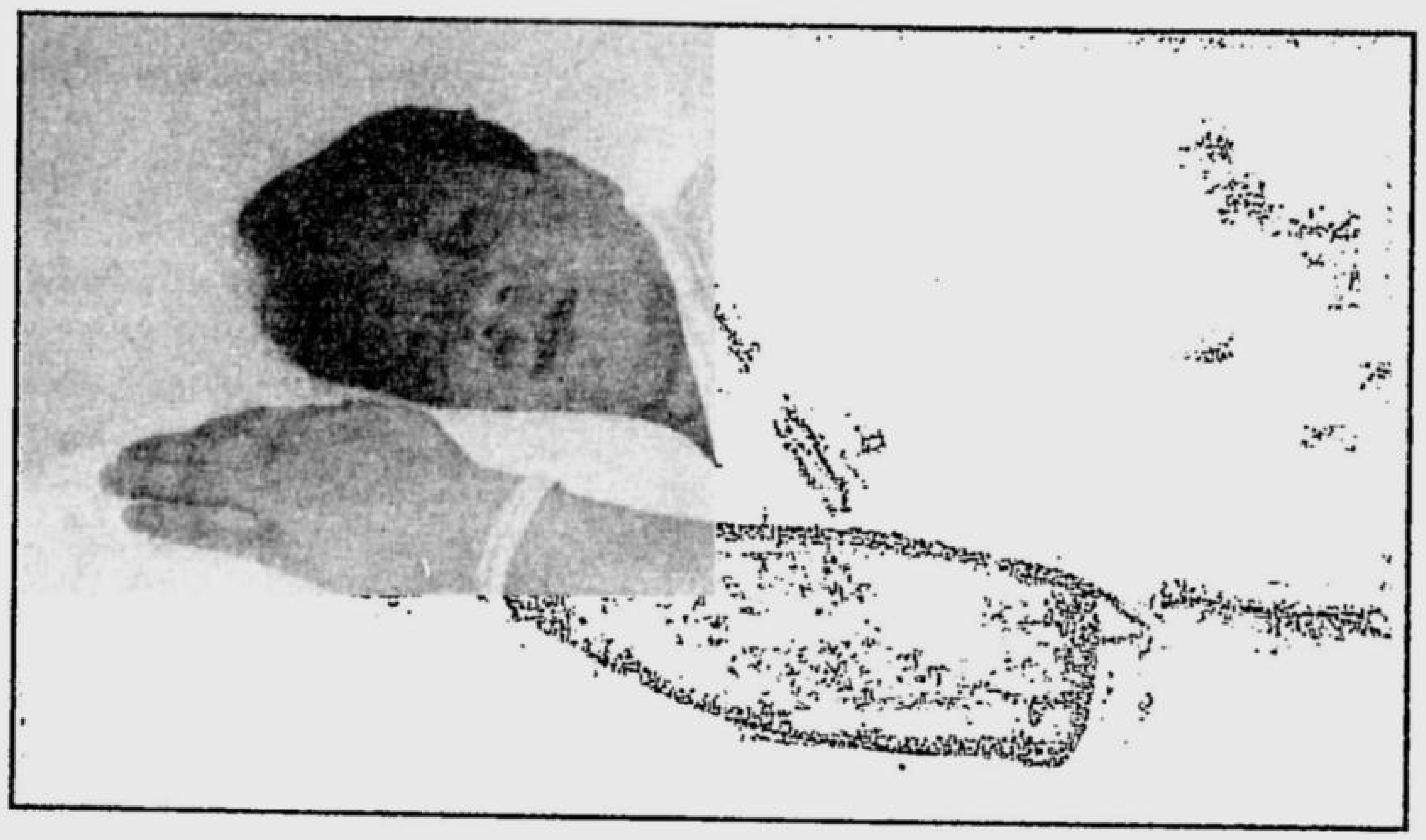

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2	550	1,100	2,200
3	600	1,200	2,400
4	650	1,300	2,600
5	700	1,400	2,800
6 to 20	750	1,500	3,000
DAILY DREAD DISEASE BENEFIT			
1	P1,000	P2,000	P4,000
2	1,100	2,200	4,400
3	1,200	2,400	4,800
4	1,300	2,600	5,200
5	1,400	2,800	5,600
6 to 20	1,500	3,000	6,000
DAILY INTENSIVE CARE UNIT BENEFIT			
1	P500	P1,000	P2,000
2	550	1,100	2,200
3	600	1,200	2,400
4	650	1,300	2,600
5	700	1,400	2,800
6 to 20	750	1,500	3,000
CONVALESCENCE BENEFIT			
1	P10,000	P20,000	P40,000
2	11,000	22,000	44,000
3	12,000	24,000	48,000
4	13,000	26,000	52,000
5	14,000	28,000	56,000
6 to 20	15,000	30,000	60,000
MAXIMUM SURGICAL BENEFIT			
1	P10,000	P20,000	P40,000
2	11,000	22,000	44,000
3	12,000	24,000	48,000
4	13,000	26,000	52,000
5	14,000	28,000	56,000
6 to 20	15,000	30,000	60,000

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30-34	116.95	232.95	464.95
35-39	143.95	287.95	574.95
40-44	179.95	358.95	717.95
45-49	223.95	447.95	894.95
50	278.95	557.95	1,115.95
YOURSELF & YOUR SPOUSE			
20-29	169.95	339.95	679.95
30-34	232.95	464.95	928.95
35-39	287.95	574.95	1,149.95
40-44	358.95	717.95	1,435.95
45-49	447.95	894.95	1,789.95
50	557.95	1,115.95	2,231.95
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20-29	239.95	478.95	957.95
30-34	341.95	682.95	1,365.95
35-39	423.95	847.95	1,694.95
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Artwatch
by B. Carlo M. Tadiar

US-based multi-awarded Filipino artist Manuel Ocampo is a big hit in the West but receives little press in the land of his birth. Could it be because his "dysfunctional" art likes to challenge established truths?

Order in Confusion

WINNER OF THE PRIX DE ROME, THE SUBJECT OF SEVERAL MONOGRAPHS, A DOCUMENTARY, AND COUNTLESS ARTICLES IN PUBLICATIONS RANGING FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES AND TIME TO THE HIPPER DETOUR, VILLAGE VOICE AND FLASHART, FILIPINO ARTIST MANUEL OCAMPO OBVIOUSLY COMMANDS A LOT OF ATTENTION.

> *"Art represents disorder while art history represents order. The artists' job is to topple that order for them to establish their own order."*

Ocampo emphasizes the role of the artist as a medium, which implies a consciousness outside rationality and a mode of communication beyond referentiality, i.e. in which a sign clearly refers to this or that particularity. Thus the images which Ocampo throws into his stew, drawn from that morass of prefabricated signs in which the contemporary world is inundated, may or may not have correspondence with the meanings read in them by the particular (in Ocampo's word, "unsuspecting") viewer.

Of the accolade I accord him as most important Filipino artist in today's global art scene, he demurs, citing David Medalla as an openly acknowledged inspiration for many of the West's most established artists. Although in print Ocampo speaks with a polemical tenor, off the record he is affable, charming, modest and friendly. In our e-mail exchanges, we talked about many other things. In music, his taste ranges from the "folk" stylistics of the German vocalist Heino to the radical electronica of Muzlimgauze. During a four-year sojourn in Spain (after winning the Prix de Rome, a "world-class" feat that got no press here), he used to play Yoyoy Villame full blast in his apartment, making the neighbors think him crazy, he says. He also talked about the professional hazard of isolated work (in a garage converted into a studio), and his sense of being "starved" for news about the Philippine art scene.

The artist with wife Sherry Apostol Ocampo and two of his works

From the book "Manuel Ocampo: Yo Tambien Soy Pintura" (MEIAC 1998)

Your work is known for its iconoclasm, and the power of many of your works lies in their twists on colonial Catholic imagery. Yet you say that you are ambiguous about the appraisal of your work as anti-Church. Could you elaborate?

What does iconoclasm mean when every artist is an iconoclast and every iconoclastic artist has been institutionalized? About people reading my work as anti-Church: It's not, it's just glorifying it the wrong way. So it just points to the fact that my work is about failure. Because we forbid the denial of art's unconditional dependency on, and responsibility to, reality, and yet on the other hand can see no way of making art become politically effective in our sense, there remains only one possibility: to fail. For we have still not been relieved of the task of fighting against injustice, badness, ugliness, death and ruin. If we nonetheless insist on making art then that art must reflect this fact. And then suddenly authenticity is called for. But art is also about questioning order, so there's already something built in art that denies its own validity. It's important for me for art to be dysfunctional that way.

Not everyone would agree with your statement that art is about questioning order. Some would say that art is about infusing order (the True, the Good and the Beautiful) into a disordered world. Where or how do you think you developed a point of view that challenges order, and the impulse for expressing it?

I think it is the world that forces order into things, packaging and commodifying it in easy bite-size pieces. Art pokes fun at order through its great form of defeatism. Because order demands its own disorder. If we look at it this way, art represents disorder whereas art history represents order. The artists' job is to topple that order in order for them to establish their own order. The succeeding generations will try to topple that preceding order of orders and so forth and so on.

I developed this view of questioning order when I was working as a waiter in Los Angeles in 1985. I was always getting my orders mixed-up. As an artist, to sum up any activity which conforms to "reality" or "order" would mean to question it, changing its meaning through an action.

Some Filipinos are offended by your work. In one instance your work was solicited for an exhibit in the Philippines but not shown because, you were told, "Filipinos are not yet ready for [your] work." Do you agree with the assessment?

I guess it's a case of the message versus the medium. What can be found in the paintings is an increasing frequency of untranslatable utterances where the abstract referents turn into glossolalia to the unsuspecting viewer. The mediumship I hold is increasingly concerned with the possibility that the truth of the spirits I control in this mass-mediated world is not referential and certainly not universal, but rather centers on questions about the difference between noise and information. Either there is nothing to transmit or there is no means of transmission. It's not a matter of communication, rather of translation and mutations. Silence or white noise.

Why do you think your work finds such acceptance in the West but little back in the Philippines? Do you think the cultural difference between the two is so great?

The difference in audience is calibrated upon how effective my attempts are to disavow my mediumship in accordance with the imminent motive of unmasking the illusion of value, or meaning, or truth. The elusiveness and instability of capital on all corners of the globe is animated like the illusionism of witchcraft – the occult transmogrified in the guise of transparency. Therefore, painting as a fetishized commodity functions as a demonic receiving device which has the capacity to retain and thereby diminish the subject's substance.

In our phone conversation you mentioned that being Filipino became important for you in the beginning because it provided a standpoint for self-definition. Yet, I pointed out, your work is not patently Philippine in that the bank of images from which it draws is shared by many cultures that have a Catholic colonial past. You responded that as important as being Filipino was for you, you also didn't want to be ethnocentric. Please continue.

The construction of identity from disparate fragments of signification in all modalities of "culture" produces a transparency of Being comparable to the state of a hologram. As our hypercapitalist culture supplies us with fast consumable images, where ethnicity is merely one fashion statement over another in this long procession of clichés, what constitutes our reality is being transplanted by these phantasmic facsimiles. Images have thus become our interface to reality, acting like viral agents in the perversion of individual consciousness. When applied to concrete situations our identity holo-transmitters don't match up to our expectations and we predictably fail. Failure is the incoherence produced from the mistranslation of fixed cultural signifiers into relative yet fluctuating parts. For me, incoherence is relativism. It is grotesque in the sense that it doesn't have a homogenized identity, without a center, synthesized through division. This is close to madness, or to schizophrenic fragmentation, a duality arising from split identities, of having two masters. The Filipino is just one way to begin.

Do your works come to you as whole pictures in your mind which you proceed to execute on canvas, or are they the result of many revisions on canvas?

Even before I start painting, the canvas is never empty. There are too many ghosts in the machine which need to be exorcised. In this manner, painting becomes a field of events, an event-space which calls for the reification of an abstract, denouncing any relationship with the alien socio-political dialectic. This is what Oehlen refers to as "evidence" or the "mess" of painting, where the painter must negotiate between the architecture of pure space and the force of a transparent subject flailing (and failing) to address any connection with the social body and its cultural dynamics to which this object is conjured.

So what's it like to be an art star? Do you hang out with Beck in Santa Monica, weekend with Francesco Clemente at Donna Karan's in Southhampton, party with Julian Schnabel after one of his premieres?

The business of making art reifies itself as an entertaining simulacra, where the media of a system operates on denied knowledge.

You seem to have no trouble bridging your life as a new father, husband, son and friend with your life as a radical artist whose work some might characterize as anarchist and reckless. How do you do it?

By changing the world one diaper at a time.

What do you do when you're not making art?

Think about my next artwork.

What are sources of inspiration for you? How do you keep the spirit of creativity alive?

My sources of inspiration come from right-wrong words wrongfully/rightfully said. How can I keep creativity alive when I have none?

An Election Day Prayer

God Almighty, at this time in our nation's history, grant that the Filipino people and their candidates may transcend anger, hatred, personal motives and vindictiveness.

Give our electorate the wisdom to choose their leaders wisely, based on proven performance, the capacity for sacrifice and hard work, and the ability to make difficult decisions for the long-term benefit of our nation. Help our people to see beyond mere personalities devoid of platforms for governance. And teach our elected leaders to value the public trust and privilege that has been given them.

Allow the coming political exercise to revive and strengthen our weakened institutions through the restoration of the will of the majority and adherence to the rule of law and due process. This we implore for the future of our nation, and of our children. Amen.

— Senator Gringo B. Honasan

- Principal Author of Republic Act No. 8749 also known as the Clean Air Act
- Principal Author of 212 Senate Bills and 109 resolutions filed during the 10th and 11th Congress, with Senate Bills 960 (Solid Waste Management Program), 1710 (the Clean Water Act) and 962 (the Land Use Act) currently pending
- Principal Author of Republic Acts repealing the anti-squatting law (8368), lifting penalties for housing loans (8501), strengthening the agrarian reform program (8532) and extending the rent control period for residential units (8437)
- Principal Author of the Mindanao Aid Plan and pending bills on a National Peace Policy, the Magna Carta for Students and for the Philippine National Police (PNP), personal economic relief assistance for government workers and an AFP Retirement Law

This is a paid advertisement of friends of Sen. Gringo Honasan

It's Your Choice

Editor's note: The ***Sunday Inquirer Magazine*** *concludes its contribution to the Philippine Daily Inquirer's "Voter's Voice: Eleksyon 2001" coverage with these short profiles of candidates. For the past seven issues, the magazine has featured some senatorial candidates, either party-affiliated or independent, to help voters get to know the people running for national positions. We have also spoken to some party list representatives and, as a reminder that this election will have repercussions in our very own backyards, a few unique stories of local government candidates from small communities all over the country. We featured the interviews as they come; thus, the candidates were profiled in no particular order. We are proud to be carrying out this project in cooperation with GMA-7.*

DR. LUISA "LOI" P. **EJERCITO-ESTRADA**

LDP-Puwersa ng Masa

The former First Lady is running under the image of "First Lady ng Masa." A psychiatrist with a medical degree from the University of Sto. Tomas, she took further training at the Royal Park Hospital in Melbourne. She founded the Erap Para sa Mahirap Foundation, a scholarship fund for underprivileged and deserving students, and led medical missions for indigents.

What is the central theme of your campaign?

Change. Change in the political system. Change in the way we elect our leaders. Change in the way politicians campaign for office. I believe that candidates should win on issues, not with money. Candidates should educate voters, not bribe them. Voters must choose their leaders because they believe in the candidates, not because they were bribed, bought or pressured by friends, relatives and associates.

What experiences shaped the Dr. Loi Estrada that we know?

My adolescence, early schooling and college education. My job as psychiatrist, that was very important. My marriage to the President. The three children: Jackie, Jinggoy and Jude. My exposure to public life as the President rose from being town mayor, senator, vice president and president.

Who has been the most important person in your life?

It has to be President Estrada. I learned from him the value of planning, looking ahead and anticipating the future. He had planned his life and career, beginning from the humble seat of town mayor, to senator, vice president and, finally, president. He also taught me the gift of friendship and looking out for others.

What is the most important decision you ever made? What happened as a result of that decision?

It's probably the time I returned from the United States after years of separation to reconcile with the President. I would like to believe that my return gave his personal and public life a stronger mooring. For sure, my return helped bring my family and our children closer together.

How will you govern, if elected? Talk about your governing style.

If elected, I will strive to become a model senator. I shall avoid absences and tardiness and be a model for punctuality and attendance. I shall join a few committees, the leadership willing, and participate diligently in the work of the committee. I will focus on national bills that protect the Filipino family, advance the rights of women and children, bring universal, affordable health care to the masses and strengthen science, math and information technology education.

Name one original idea you'd bring to the office.

I will not appoint a relative to my Senate staff.

Eric Olona

PANFILO "PING" **LACSON**

LDP-Puwersa ng Masa

The 52-year-old Caviteño is a graduate of the Philippine Military Academy, Class of '71. He was deputy commander of the Metrocom Intelligence Security Group (MISG), Cebu Metrodiscom commander, and Laguna provincial commander, among others. He became well known in 1992 when he was appointed chief of Task Force Habagat of the Presidential Anti-Crime Commission, then headed by Vice President Joseph Estrada. When the latter became president, Lacson was appointed chief of the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force and then Director-General of the Philippine National Police in 1999.

Who has been the most influential person in your life and what did you learn from this person?

My parents. They taught me the value of honesty and hard work which have been my guide in my formative years in the PMA and in all my years as a public servant.

To page 15

Public **Presence**

This party wants to make sure the ordinary person's voice is heard

ASAKAPIL, in Bisaya, means "where to?" and "rise, Filipino," according to the group's founder, Apo Hiking Society singer-composer Danny Javier. Founded in 1997, the group actively campaigned for progressive senatorial candidates in the 1998 elections. This time around, it is seeking public office itself, as the representative of the "ordinary Filipino whose voice has been drowned by people who run the government."

What's the name of your party and what sector do you represent?

Asa at Samahan ng Karaniwang Pilipino or ASAKAPIL represents the marginalized ordinary Filipino whose voice remains unheard by those who run the government.

Amar

What is your political platform and legislative agenda?

We will prioritize bills and projects for the ordinary Filipino that involve livelihood, housing, education and the environment.

Who are your nominees, and why are they the most qualified for the position?

The lead nominee is myself, Atty. Milabel Cristobal Amar, a human rights lawyer for 14 years and affiliated with the Free Legal Assistance Group (FLAG). The second nominee is Atty. Arthur Yap, another practising lawyer. Then there's Danny Virtudazo from the Visayan region. The others are Leocadio Nittoreda from Mindanao, and Danny Javier of the Apo Hiking Society.

As lead nominee of ASAKAPIL, what are your core values , commitments, and beliefs?

Honesty, intellectual integrity. commitment to human rights and service.

What drives and motivates you?

The desire to give our children a better future and to create positive change within our selves and others. I believe in the ability of Filipinos; let's exploit that for the betterment of our nation. We should take pride in ourselves.

What experiences shaped who you are?

Those years when I was involved in socio-political issues as a student. My years as a human rights lawyer which exposed me to the realities and problems of society.

When you think of leadership , what ideas and images come to mind?

The openness and willingness to listen and to stand up for what you believe is right. Living what you believe in and what you say.

Who are your political models?

Dr. Juan Flavier is one. I like his ability to reach out and talk in the language of the ordinary Filipino. He's not adversarial and very down-to-earth. Also, women leaders like England's former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and India's Indira Gandhi, who were able to distinguish themselves in a world dominated by men.

What is the most powerful idea you've come across?

Honesty and truthfulness are very powerful ideas They can spur people to action and create change.

Pennie Azarcon dela Cruz

Power by **Numbers**

ABA literally means "oppressed," but not for long. That is, if the group gets one of its own elected to Congress

ABA, says its representative Jeremias U. Montemayor, received the second highest number of votes for the party list groups in the 1998 elections. And why not, when farmers, fisherfolk and informal workers which it claims to represent just about make up majority of Filipinos? "They also contribute as much as 70 percent of total government revenue, but are looked down upon and belittled by society," says Montemayor.

Granada

What is your party's official name and what sector does it represent?

Alyansang Bayanihan ng mga Magsasaka, Manggagawang-bukid at Mangingisda (ABA). ABA represents the peasantry, fisherfolk, tenants, rural workers, market vendors, drivers, waiters and other workers.

What is your program of government and legislative agenda?

In agriculture, we shall thoroughly implement agrarian reform for a broader sharing of the country's natural resources, particularly our forests, mineral lands and offshore waters. We are also for fair trade and will cooperate with other nations to remove the defects and inequalities of the GATT-WTO trade arrangements. We also support an equitable program of urban land reform, cooperatives, and all kinds of incentives to enhance production.

Who are your nominees and what makes them qualified to represent your sector?

Our first nominee is Dioscoro A. Granada, presently the ABA representative in Congress. Granada has been working with peasants for many years especially through cooperatives in the Davao region. The second nominee is Jeremias U. Montemayor, founder–president of the Federation of Free Farmers.

What are your core values, beliefs and commitments?

ABA's core values are human worth, human dignity and the overriding importance of human development and human perfection. ABA's belief is that in the final analysis, people can solve their own problems and pursue their own aspirations but they have to be united to generate the necessary strength that they need.

What drives and motivates you?

The leaders and members of ABA are motivated by their sense of identity with the oppressed and exploited.

What experiences shaped who you are?

The services that we received from the peasantry, our observation of their patience and long-suffering, their industry and their humility.

Who is your political role model?

We have none as yet because our concept of political reform and development is one that will start from the people through their common consciousness and realization, their common determination and their common action. For this to happen, they need leaders who, like a mirror, would absorb their image, purify it and throw it back to them, inspiring them with their own true image.

What have you done to uphold the interest of the public?

ABA leaders, through their affiliate organizations, have continuously conducted seminars and workshops on the peasants' condition, problems, aspirations, projects and activities. Right now, such projects and activities number by the thousands.

How will you govern if elected?

Whether elected or not, we have always been listening, and will always listen, to the people. Their actual situations and their aspirations will indicate to us how we shall govern if we are elected. The differences of opinion among the people can be solved if they perceive that we are listening to them and are trying our best to serve their interests. **PAC**

A **Voice** for the Poor

Who speaks for the poor? AKO, or so the group claims

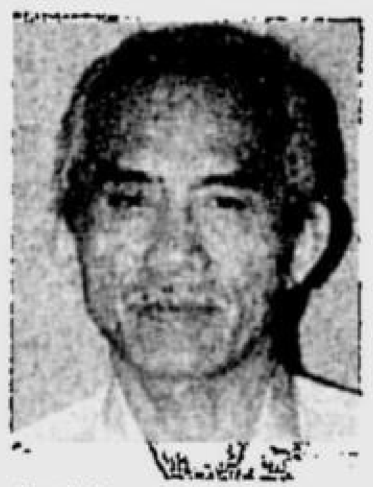
AKO may sound self-indulgent but it stands for Adhikain at Kilusan ng Ordinaryong-tao, an urban poor group. Domingo Andolana, the group's number one nominee who hails from Mindanao, answers our questions on how well he'll represent AKO and its constituents in Congress:

What are your core values, commitment and belief?

I am happy to serve the people.

What drives and motivates you?

Being an educator for 35 years, I planted seeds on good soil and nurtured them so that they now bear fruit. I am ready to serve in other ways.



Andolana

What experiences shaped who you are?

I am a self-made man. Being the eighth of 16 children of a shoe repair man, I experienced how it is to be poor. This gave me the drive to study and struggle hard to prevent my children from inheriting my poverty.

When you think of leadership, what ideas and images come to mind?

A good leader will always consult and reflect before making decisions. He listens to suggestions.

Who are your political role models?

Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther.

What have you done to uphold the interest of the public?

I am not a politician but an educator. After the 1998 party list election where AKO was no. 6, I consolidated all the urban poor associations in different provinces and cities. I also organized a council of urban poor leaders to monitor issues that concern the poor in every local government unit. I'm part of the Balik Bukid Foundation which encourages urban poor migrants to go back to their farms and plant crops as sources of buffer income while they are in the city. We also worked with the lumads on the issue of ancestral domain and organized cooperatives for teachers, senior citizens, transport workers and a salt-making project for mothers, vendors, dispatchers, and so on.

How will you govern if elected?

Governance must be based on proper consultation and under the rule of law.

What was the most important decision you ever made?

Taking up Education, which molded the minds of the youth and inculcated good values in them, which made them more productive in their communities. **PAC**

Pulling Together

Making cooperatives a viable idea is the main task that Coop-NATTCO has set for itself in Congress

People pooling their resources and helping each other out is the most basic idea behind cooperatives. How to make cooperatives accessible to people who cannot be reached by government services is a felt need that should be addressed, says Coop-NATTCO.

What is your party's official name and what sector do you represent?

We are the Cooperative NATCCO Network Party or Coop-NATCCO, the only cooperative-based party that won in the 1998 party list election.

Who are your nominees and what makes them the best qualified to represent your group?

We actually have 11 nominees because our regional affiliates have their own nominees who were then ranked by the National Directorate of our party. Our lead nominee is Rep. Cresente C. Paez, incumbent representative of Coop-NATCCO and current chair of the House of Representatives' Committee on Cooperative Development. Our second nominee is Nemesio Miranda Sr., executive director of the Tagalog Cooperative Development Center.

Paez

Can you tell us your party's platform or legislative agenda?

Coop-NATCCO's program of government centers on economic and political democratization, cultural revaluation and sustainable development. We seek a just and equitable distribution of economic power through the Filipinos' broader participation in the control and ownership of the nation's productive resources and assets, and in the country's decision-making processes and institutions.

What makes your group the best representative of this sector?

We in Coop-NATCCO have many years of direct experience in successful cooperative development. We also have the national network necessary to ensure that we reflect and represent the various types of coops and coop advocates all over the country. Finally, we have the advantage of three years' experience in Congress and successfully working for the passage of several priority bills on coops.

What are your core values, commitments and beliefs?

Congressman Paez: I strongly believe in the basic equality and human dignity of all persons, all of us being children of a loving and liberating God. This is at the root of my life-long work for cooperatives, social justice and democracy.

What experiences shaped who you are?

My experience in cooperative organizing and education, first as a youthful parish volunteer in Mindanao, then with cooperatives in the Visayas.

When you think of leadership, what words and images come to mind?

Commitment, community and action. Leadership should be based on a firm commitment to the common good. Leaders should empower people and communities instead of focusing on individuals or personalities.

What have you done to uphold the interest of the public?

Our work in strengthening the cooperative movement in our country is our distinct contribution. We also take pride in supporting the impeachment of former President Estrada even when it was made clear to us by people in government then that it would be easier for Coop-NATCCO if we just remained "neutral."

How will you govern, if elected? Talk about your governing style.

In our three years in Congress, we have shown how we serve: we are participatory and consultative, hardworking and action-oriented, and committed to the greater good of the people.

What have you done to give people a voice in public policy?

We regularly conducted public hearings and consultations on our proposed legislative measures. We solicited policy recommendations during our participation in various assemblies, fora and workshops. We also made sure that our proposals and actions in Congress were regularly communicated to the cooperatives, coop advocates and other stakeholders through our newsletters, bulletins, e-groups and reports. **PAC** *by Fr. Ruben J. Villote*

Future Shepherds on the Campaign Trail

Election 2001, hopefully, won't be a repeat of Election 1998, an election built on lies, legends and romantic visuals about loving the poor and the powerless, and ending up soon after with the candidate/winner aspiring instead to become rich, powerful and popular

Reflection One

All the candidates running for political office are competing for our votes. "Please allow us to be your public servants and shepherds," they beg almost on their knees, "so we can lead you, once and for all, to a culture of moral ascendancy and a governance based on justice, compassion and peace, and we promise never to allow the mistakes of the recent past to happen again."

The speakers are either traditional politicians or show biz people who, it seems to me, are kindred spirits. They thrive on the three-fold paradigm of *Pera*, Power and Popularity (PPP) as their bread of life. That is why during election time, we have a fiesta led by entertainers and politicians who shower the people with *pera* and all that money can buy. They turn stones into bread for us (Lk. 4:3) and afterwards gives us a circus (Mt. 4:5-7). They will do a stupid jig on stage, eat fire or jump from the pinnacle of the temple in exchange for our "loyalty and love" and, of course, votes. The "material girls and boys" among us who are easily impressed with anything *pera* can buy, and the mercenary poor who allow themselves to be bought with material things would be the potential followers of these entertainers-turned-politicians and politicians-turned-show biz.

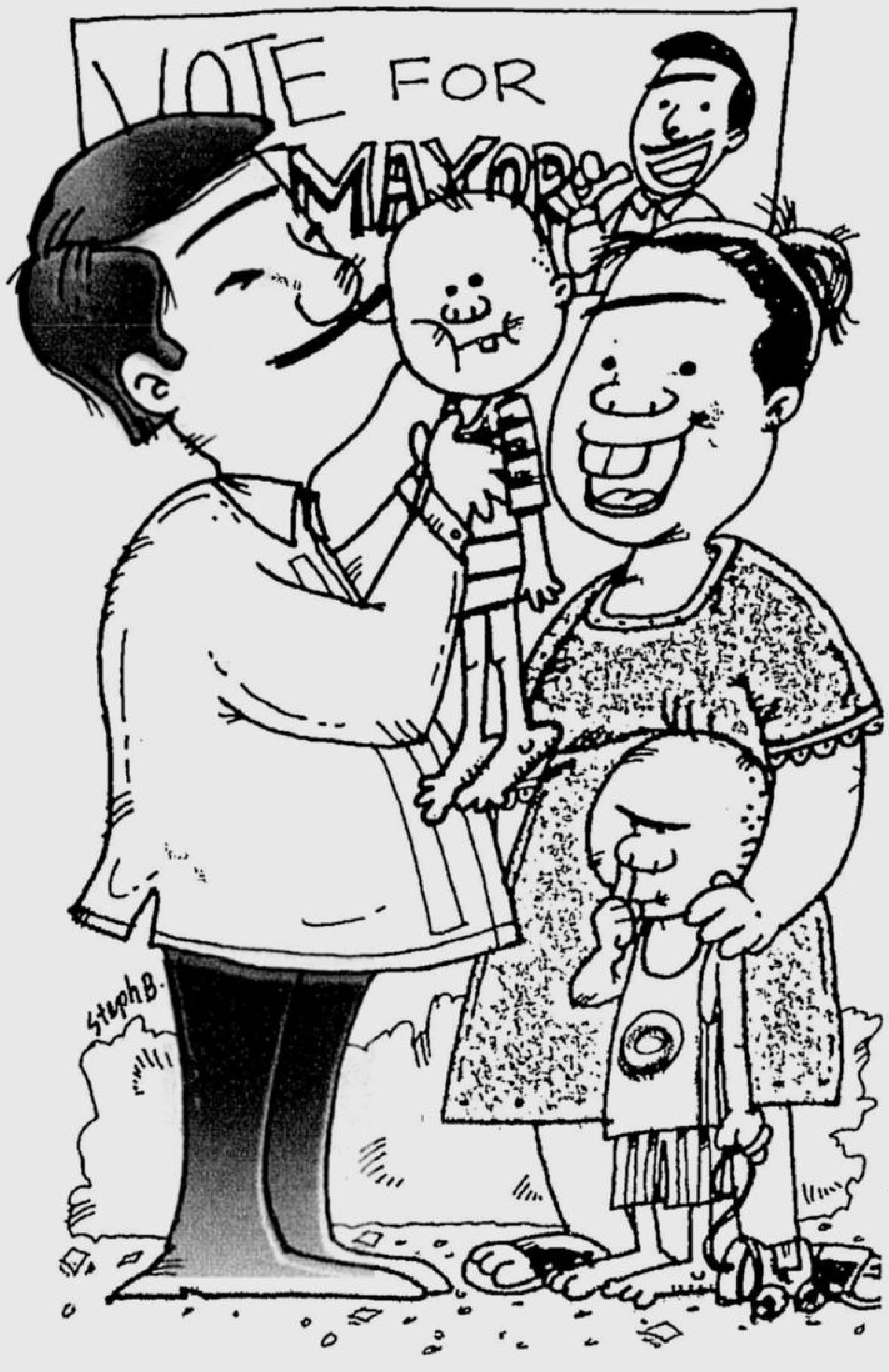


Illustration by STEPH BRAVO

Pera and Popularity can make one powerful like Asiong Salonga the Legend. And when *Pera*, Power and Popularity lock arms and lock in a man or woman as in a prison, that rich, famous and powerful person is tempted to bully his (her) followers into believing that he (she) owns the world (Mk. 4:8-10). Both the followers and their leaders who are so obsessed with the zombie of power would inevitably end up as the oppressed or the oppressor. Advocates of the "power paradigm" are great compromisers with the power-holders of the world. Read again the gospel about the Temptations of Jesus in the wilderness (Mt. 4, Mc. 1 and Lk. 4) and never again repeat the mistakes of our tragicomic past.

Reflection Two: A word or two to our future shepherds now on the campaign trail.

To package yourself as a "shepherd of the people" is a romantic ambition that might even get you lined up among the likes of Mother Teresa, Charles de Focauld and Asiong Salonga of happy memory.

Having your photo taken caressing an unwashed street urchin and eating with your bare hands among beggars under a bridge or farmers in the countryside can be a perfect way to embellish your pro-poor image and your campaign poster during election time—if you are running on the mythologized theme of "option for the poor."

These were precisely the images we saw on streamers and posters during the 1998 presidential elections which put Estrada on a pedestal as the legendary Asiong Salonga, hero of the poor. And the poor blindly believed the lie that this man Erap, the rich, famous and powerful son of San Juan is actually not Asiong Salonga of Tondo. And so, when People Power II started to shoot down their false idol from his pedestal, the poor man (and woman) who worshipped the false idol are bound to get shot down along with their Legend.

Election 2001, I hope, is not a repeat of Election 1998, an election built on lies, legends and romantic visuals about loving the poor, shepherding the poor, kissing the babies of the poor, being on the side of the powerless and marginalized poor, and ending up soon after with you, the candidate/winner, aspiring instead to become rich, powerful and popular. Indeed, with you even becoming Lord Executioner of the poor including the poor babies, the masses and the hungry crowd charmed by the *pera*-power-and-popularity gimmick of the campaign trail. Careful!

Here's the spontaneous response of 32 random passengers in two buses and three jeepneys in Manila and Cavite to the question: Whose names pop up in your mind when thinking of senatorial choices worthy of your vote?

Responses: Flavier, Tañada, Magsaysay, Serge Osmeña, Herrera, Monsod, Vinzons-Chato, Joker Arroyo, Drilon, Villar, Orly Mercado, Vilma (meaning Recto), Sharon (meaning Kiko)—not necessarily in that order.

The Word

by Fr. Ruben J. Villote

Future Shepherds on the Campaign Trail

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Reflection One

All the candidates running for political office are competing for our votes. "Please allow us to be your public servants and shepherds," they beg almost on their knees, "so we can lead you, once and for all, to a culture of moral ascendancy and a governance based on justice, compassion and peace, and we promise never to allow the mistakes of the recent past to happen again."

The speakers are either traditional politicians or show biz people who, it seems to me, are kindred spirits. They thrive on the three-fold paradigm of *Pera*, Power and Popularity (PPP) as their bread of life. That is why during election time, we have a fiesta led by entertainers and politicians who shower the people with *pera* and all that money can buy. They turn stones into bread for us (Lk. 4:3) and afterwards gives us a circus (Mt. 4:5-7). They will do a stupid jig on stage, eat fire or jump from the pinnacle of the temple in exchange for our "loyalty and love" and, of course, votes. The "material girls and boys" among us who are easily impressed with anything *pera* can buy, and the mercenary poor who allow themselves to be bought with material things would be the potential followers of these entertainers-turned-politicians and politicians-turned-show biz.

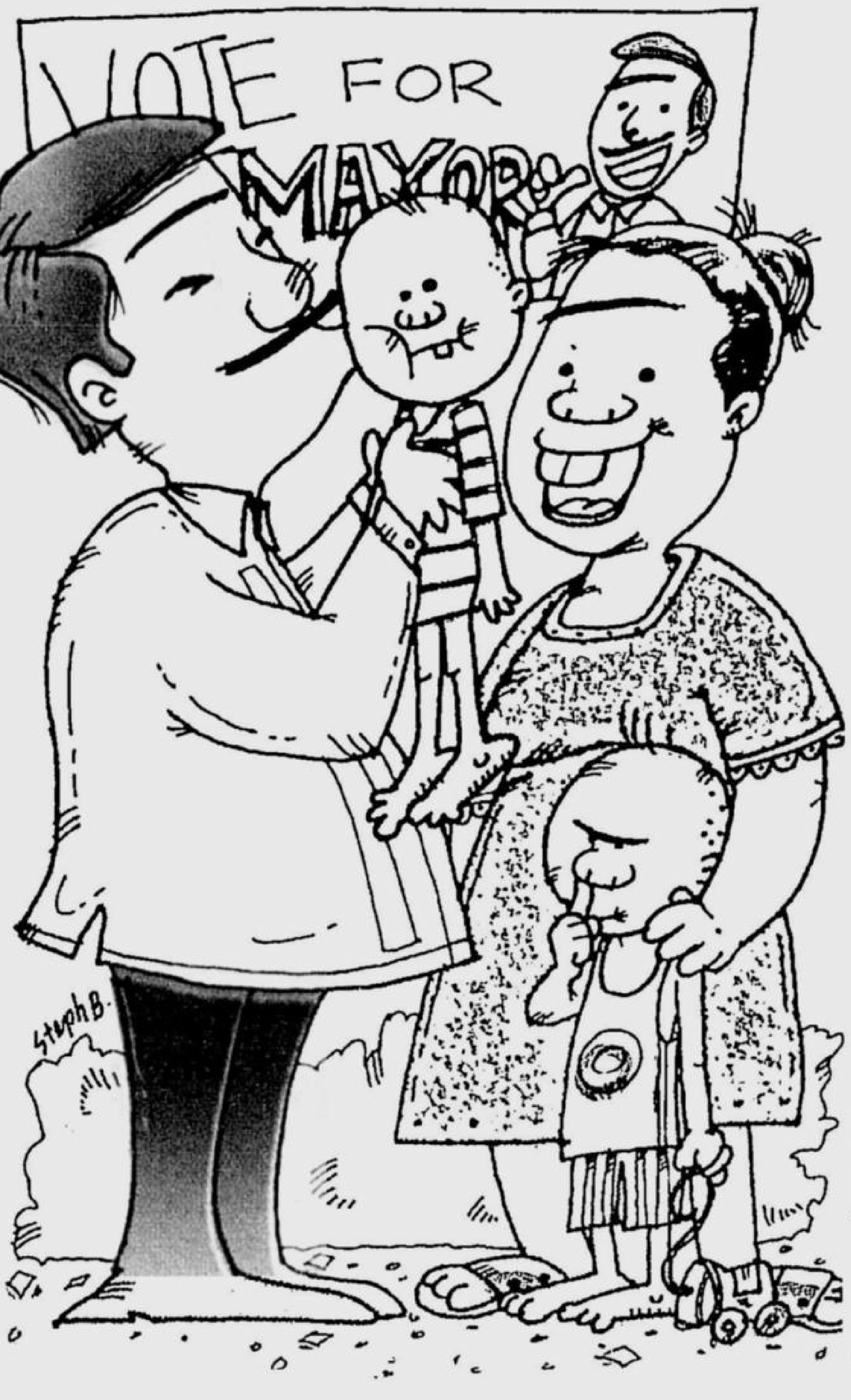


Illustration by STEPH BRAVO

Pera and Popularity can make one powerful like Asiong Salonga the Legend. And when *Pera*, Power and Popularity lock arms and lock in a man or woman as in a prison, that rich, famous and powerful person is tempted to bully his (her) followers into believing that he (she) owns the world (Mk. 4:8-10). Both the followers and their leaders who are so obsessed with the zombie of power would inevitably end up as the oppressed or the oppressor. Advocates of the "power paradigm" are great compromisers with the power-holders of the world. Read again the gospel about the Temptations of Jesus in the wilderness (Mt. 4, Mc. 1 and Lk. 4) and never again repeat the mistakes of our tragicomic past.

Reflection Two: A word or two to our future shepherds now on the campaign trail.

To package yourself as a "shepherd of the people" is a romantic ambition that might even get you lined up among the likes of Mother Teresa, Charles de Focauld and Asiong Salonga of happy memory.

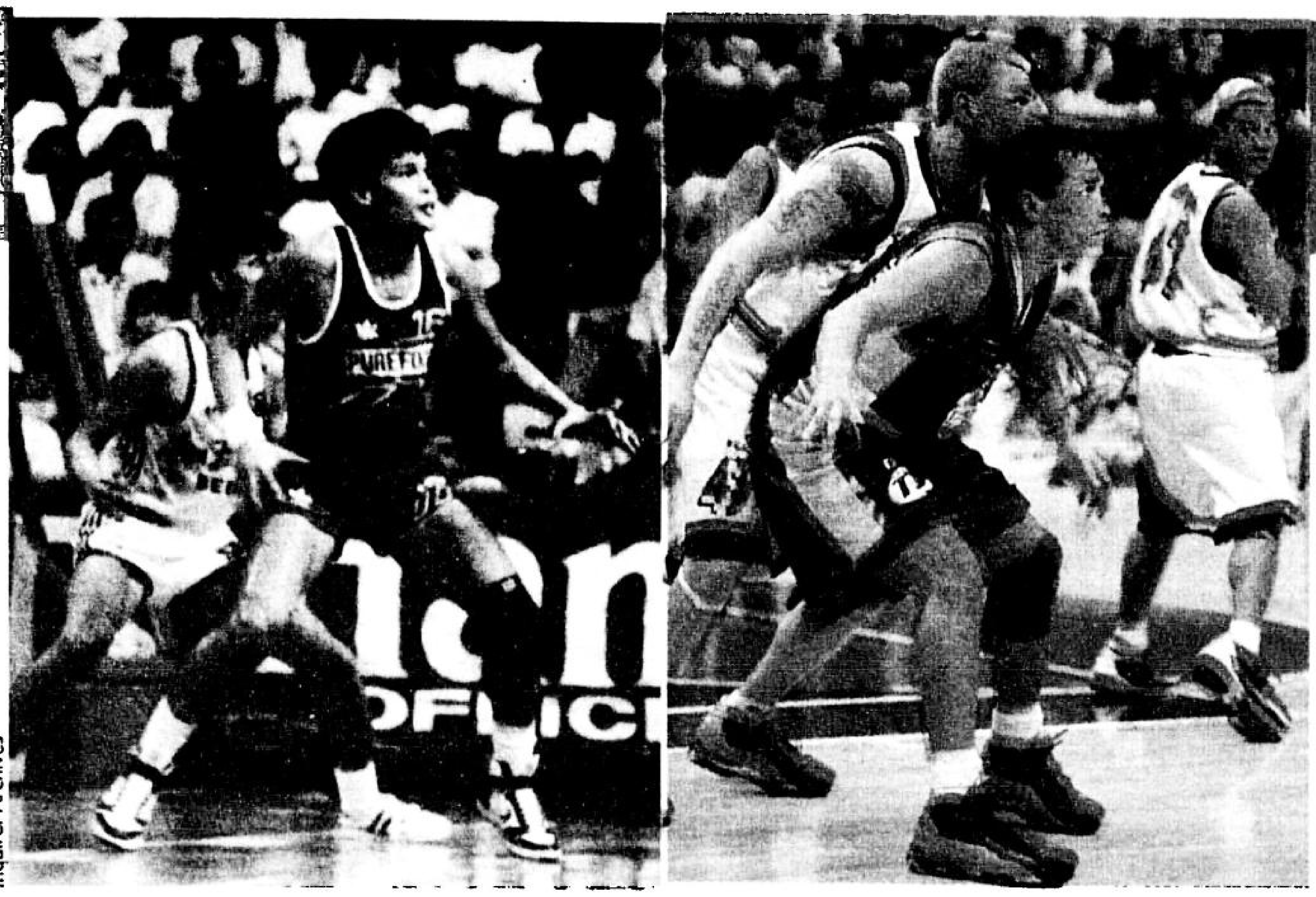
Having your photo taken caressing an unwashed street urchin and eating with your bare hands among beggars under a bridge or farmers in the countryside can be a perfect way to embellish your pro-poor image and your campaign poster during election time—if you are running on the mythologized theme of "option for the poor."

These were precisely the images we saw on streamers and posters during the 1998 presidential elections which put Estrada on a pedestal as the legendary Asiong Salonga, hero of the poor. And the poor blindly believed the lie that this man Erap, the rich, famous and powerful son of San Juan is actually not Asiong Salonga of Tondo. And so, when People Power II started to shoot down their false idol from his pedestal, the poor man (and woman) who worshipped the false idol are bound to get shot down along with their Legend.

Election 2001, I hope, is not a repeat of Election 1998, an election built on lies, legends and romantic visuals about loving the poor, shepherding the poor, kissing the babies of the poor, being on the side of the powerless and marginalized poor, and ending up soon after with you, the candidate/winner, aspiring instead to become rich, powerful and popular. Indeed, with you even becoming Lord Executioner of the poor including the poor babies, the masses and the hungry crowd charmed by the *pera*-power-and-popularity gimmick of the campaign trail. Careful!

Here's the spontaneous response of 32 random passengers in two buses and three jeepneys in Manila and Cavite to the question: Whose names pop up in your mind when thinking of senatorial choices worthy of your vote?

Responses: Flavier, Tañada, Magsaysay, Serge Osmeña, Herrera, Monsod, Vinzons-Chato, Joker Arroyo, Drilon, Villar, Orly Mercado, Vilma (meaning Recto), Sharon (meaning Kiko)—not necessarily in that order.



Inquirer Archives

Hardcourt hero: Alvin as a rookie in 1988(left)and a veteran in 2001 (right)

COVER...from page 7

These are the intangibles that make him tick; devotion and pride. Since missing that tryout in 1984, Alvin has never missed an opportunity to wear the national colors in international competition, something he still holds dear today. "I want to return the Philippines to its glory days in basketball," he enthuses. And if they still want him in the future, he's ready to suit up again.

After being hounded by intrigues and distractions for years, Alvin now focuses on basketball and on family life with wife Cindy and his three children, Angelo, 11, Christine, 9, and Clarice, 7. Whenever there's the slightest opportunity, Alvin fastbreaks his family—and the indispensible family dogs—to a beach in Batangas. "Just sunbathing all day," he beams. It is a portrait of a PBA player mellowing and maturing. Another priority is his spiritual life. He considers the injuries and intrigues as trials he had to go through so he could find himself. "If you follow Him, walk with Him, your life will come together," Alvin states. He is active in their newly launched ministry, the Champions for Christ. "We act as disciples for other athletes. That's where I'm focused now, on the Lord, my family, and my team. I'm happy now."

Being the subject of multi-million peso contracts, Alvin now says the money isn't as important as it used to be. "When you're younger, you want the big contract, but when you grow older and mature, you choose the relationship with the team. I like playing for Purefoods. I might retire with them."

WHEN Alvin limped through a lackluster 2000 season, there was talk that it might be time for this hardcourt survivor to hang it up. But as his injuries healed and his focus adjusted, Alvin took to the court this All-Filipino Conference with gusto and with more juice in his jump shot. But just how long does he intend to keep playing?

"In truth, I already want to retire," he smiles ruefully. "In my subconscious, I'm getting tired. I've been playing straight since 1992. I have basketball 11 months out of 12. But there are still things to achieve, things to share." He honestly doesn't know how long he'll still play. If and when he retires, he'll possess the usual options that celebrities have, like politics and coaching. "But I can still play, so that's what I want to do."

And play he does, every night, in a PBA that keeps changing and a game that keeps getting harder. In the time Alvin has played with Purefoods, the league has seen its rookies get younger and also experienced an explosion in the number of Fil-American players taking to the court. When Alvin entered the league as a rookie in 1988, there were only two. This 2001 season features 21 Fil-Ams among the different teams. Saying that they make the league more challenging, Alvin sees no problem with the coming of the legitimate Fil-Am athletes. "It's a challenge and I like the competition. As long as they're authentic Fil-Ams, they motivate us to play even harder." As much as Alvin wants to play, so does the PBA need him. Trinidad says that Alvin's longevity "is a sad commentary on the breed of new players entering the pro league. While Alvin zoomed to outshine Fernandez and company, nobody of his sensational worth has truly taken over."

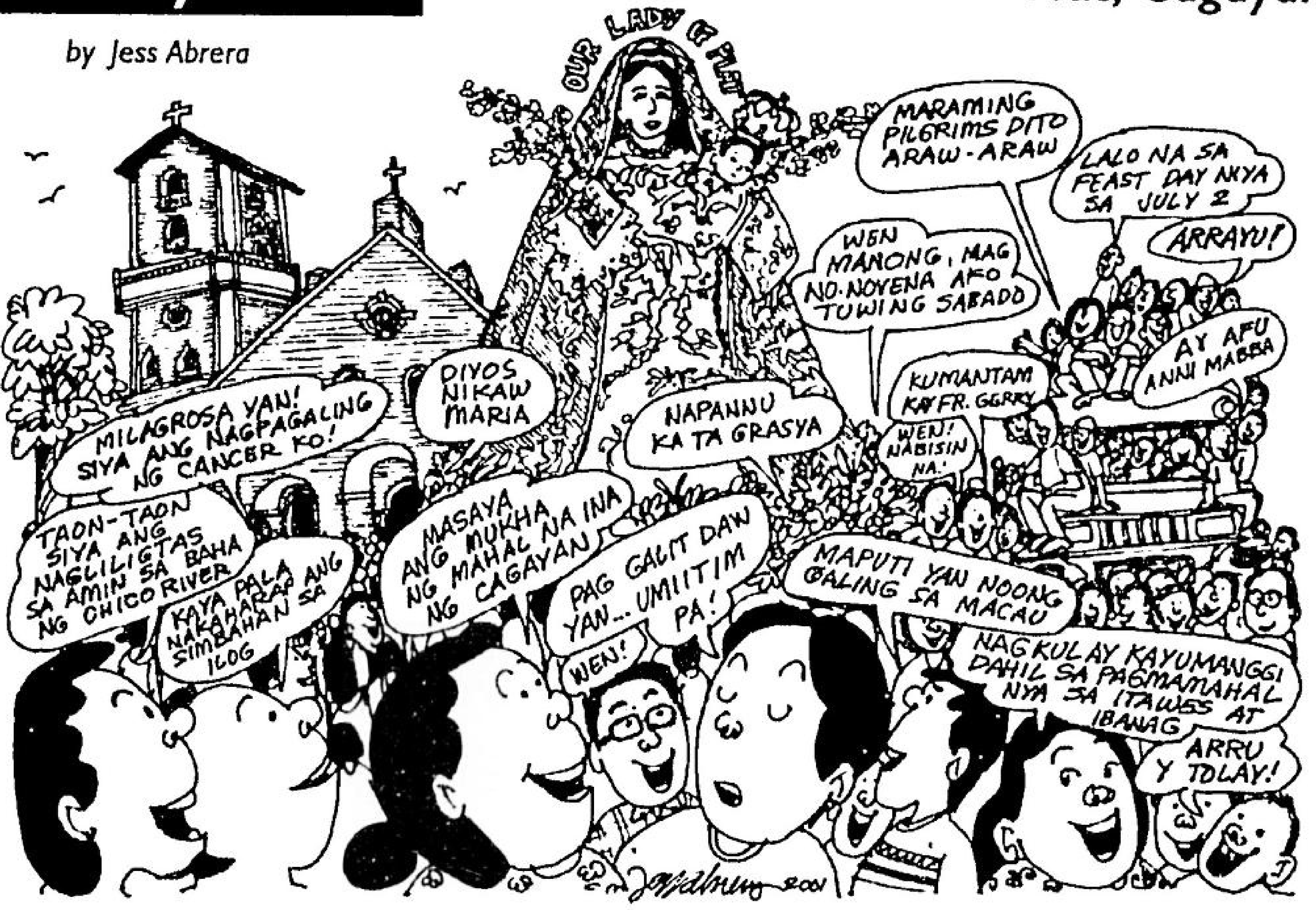
When Alvin entered the league, his idols Fernandez and Jaworski were the oldest players in the PBA, wizened hoop warriors who battled and trained younger upstarts. Today, he finds himself in the same situation and takes his role as teacher seriously. "I want to be able to teach the younger players the value of hard work." Even as the PBA itself named him one of its 25 best ever, Alvin demurs to consider himself as such. "You have to look at players like 'The Big Difference,' Caloy Loyzaga, who brought the Philippines to international basketball success," he says humbly. "Personally, I'm not in their league."

He still finds himself raring to play all the time. "My system's used to it," he says. "It's when I stop that it will become difficult." And so for Alvin Patrimonio, the cycle continues: with every conference, every game, every chance to win, but more importantly, another chance to play: "It's unbelievable how much I love the game. Probably when I'm already a grandfather, I'll still enjoy basketball. I still love the game the same way as when I was a kid. It hasn't changed. I still always want to win. Every single game."

Pinoy NGA!

by Jess Abrera

Piat, Cagayan


OUR LADY OF PIAT
MILAGROSA YAN! SIYA ANG NAGPAGALING NG CANCER KO!
DIYOS NIKAW MARIA
NAPANNU KA TA GRASYA
MARAMING PILGRIMS DITO ARAW-ARAW
LALO NA SA FEAST DAY NIYA SA JULY 2
ARRAYU!
WEN MANONG, MAG NO-NOYENA AKO TUWING SABADO
KUMANTAM KAY FR. GERRY
WEN! NABISIN NA.
AY AFU ANNI MABBA
TAON-TAON SIYA ANG NAGLILIGTAS SA AMIN SA BAHA NG CHICO RIVER
KAYA PALA NAKAHARAP ANG SIMBAHAN SA ILOG
MASAYA ANG MUKHA NG MAHAL NA INA NG CAGAYAN
PAG GALIT DAW YAN... UMIITIM PA!
WEN!
MAPUTI YAN NOONG GALING SA MACAU
NAGKULAY KAYUMANGGI DAHIL SA PAGMAMAHAL NYA SA ITAWES AT IBANAG
ARRU Y TOLAY!
JessAbrera 2001

IT'S YOUR CHOICE...from page13

What experience shaped who you are?

My training at the PMA taught me to be in full control of myself. It taught me discipline and reinforced my love for our country and people.

What is the most important decision you ever made?

The time I announced the decision of the PNP as an institution to withdraw support for former President Estrada. It was the hardest decision I ever made but it had to be done to prevent bloodshed.

What have you done in your public life or political career that you are proudest of?

In my short stint (14 months) as PNP chief, I redeemed the image of the police force with reforms that restored people's confidence in the man in uniform. Kidnap-for-ransom and drug syndicates were also neutralized. The PNP rebounded from a public confidence rating of −18 to +64 by the time I stepped down. My track record should dispel all these fabricated issues that are being raised against me.

When you think of leadership, what words and images come to mind?

"What is right must be kept right. What is wrong must be set right."

What is the most powerful idea you have come across?

Power. It was only when I was PNP chief that I discovered that if you can utilize the concept of power wisely, you can really accelerate change in our country and reform even the most reviled institution like the PNP.

Stella O. Gonzales

This Week

Art

Rx Critical Remedies, an exhibit that brings together the counter practices within art and medicine to create a visual tension between the works of artists Nona Garcia and Norberto Roldan, from May 7-June 16 at the Lopez Memorial Museum, Benpres Building, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

"The Dream Blankets," an installation piece by visual artist Freddie Aquilizan at the third floor hallway of the CCP until May 31. For inquiries, call 832-5094.

"Work in Progress" by Nona Garcia and Norberto Roldan, ongoing at the Lopez Museum

Summer, works in watercolor, pastel and acrylic by Magoo Valencia, Frank Verano and Pete Castañeda until May 8 at Gallery 139, SM Megamall Bldg. A.

Federica Rubattu is holding an exhibit of small reliefs in copper, silver and bronze and symbolic jewelry in silver and gold at the Luz Gallery, Locsin Bldg., Makati Avenue until May 17.

Small Works, a solo exhibit of abstract artist Bob Bernardo Nuestro until May 23 at Donada Art Gallery, Malate, Manila.

The **Dolls of Japan: Shapes of Prayer, Embodiments of Love,** an exhibit of more than 70 dolls of wide variety at the Metropolitan Museum until May 7.

Art of the Cross: A Philippine Tradition, an exhibit featuring more than 50 antique crosses from various public and private collections until June 30 at Ayala Museum. Ramon Villegas will give a lecture on Heirloom Crosses on May 12 to complement the exhibit. For details, call 812-1191 to 97 loc. 106.

The Red Room, a solo exhibit by John Young at the Big Sky Mind, 66B Doña Juana Rodriguez St., New Manila, QC until May 27.

Mga Hinabing Panaginip showcases 100 heritage *t'nalak* fabrics and large reproductions of photographs by Neal Oshima, highlighting the weavers and scenes from Lake Sebu. The exhibit runs for six months at the North Wing, 4th Floor of the Museum of the People (Old Finance Building).

Music

Jaya leads an impressive list of talents in **Crossover Presents,** including Da Capo, a duet of violin and piano; The Band, led by pianist Gerard Salonga and the Opera vocalists, and Jon Santos in a one-man comedy act, May 10 at the Captain's Bar of the Mandarin Oriental. For inquiries, call 750-8888 ext. 2446.

May Gig Sked of Sugar Free: Freedom Bar (May 9); Island Cove, Cavite (May 26). Gig Sked of Imago: Mayric's (May 8); Island Cove (May 26); Freedom Bar (May 30).

Serenata sa Fort Santiago, an open-air brass band concert series every Sunday, 4:30 p.m. at Plaza Moriones, Fort Santiago with the following bands: Mapua Institute of Technology Band (May 6); Philippine Army Band (May 13); Philippine Navy Band (May 20); MMDA 27th Lancer Drum and Bugle Corps (May 26).

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

Onstage

The UP Playwrights Theater is staging a back to back offering of Rene Villanueva's Palanca prize-winning play ***"Dobol"*** and Chris Martinez's **"Baclofen"** until May 13 at the Teatro Hermogenes Ylagan, Faculty Center, College of Arts and Letters, UP Diliman. For details, call 924-3224 and 924-8589.

Food

Kamayan Fiesta Island, a buffet celebration featuring the colorful fiestas of the Philippines. Over 50 new dishes to choose from with the delectable Kamayan *lechon de leche* at the forefront. Available at all Kamayan branches.

Saisaki now features **Spring Festival and the Maguro Matsuri Sushi.** An array of the vibrant colors and fabulous flavors of this season of Spring and over 100 Japanese specialties to choose from. Available at all Saisaki branches.

Atbp

Precious Pages Corp. will hold a **Romance Writing Workshop** on May 6, 13, 20 and 27 at 83 Sgt. Rivera, San Francisco del Monte, QC. For details, call 414-6188.

Networking for Social Development Practitioners training will be held on May 23-25 at the UP College of Social Work and Community Development, UP Diliman, Quezon City. For details, call 929-2477or email lstojos@yahoo.com.

"After 10 years, Kumusta na?", a **homecoming reunion** of Angono Private High School Class '91 on May 8, 5 p.m. at the APHS new site. For details, call Dino Medina at 651-1789 or Lorie Wambangco at 651 1269.

The Filipinas Heritage Library will host the second **Writing For Glossies seminar-workshop** on May 12, 19 and 26. For details, call 892-1801.

"My Child Is Creative. How Do I Boost His Potential?" On May 9, 12, 16 and 18, the Library will host a creativity workshop for 8-12 year-olds. For details, call 892-1801.

A **talk on keeping well using natural means** will be given by Mariel Francisco on May 12 at the Lopez Memorial Museum. A healing ritual by Pandayang Babaylan, a movement of Filipino ritual artists, will follow. For details, call 631-2417.

ProActive Center for Training is conducting a **Basic Foodservers Training** on May 7-11 at Triple V Express, 2/L Bridgeway, SM Megamall. For inquiries, call 823-4947.

Goodwill Bookstore **Children's Activity Center** holds a storytelling hour for children, book reading session, and arts and crafts every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday until June 3 at Glorietta and Megamall branches. For details, call 633-6372 and 810-5922.

Executive Editors Inc. is offering **seminars on corporate communications:** Corporate News and Feature Writing (May 11); Corporate Newsletter Publishing (May 17-18); Grammar for Smart People (May 25); Write Press Releases That See Print (June 8); and Writing for Business Results (June 21-22). For details, call 887-3797.

Photo 101: A General Introduction to Photography, a workshop on the fundamentals of photography with field assignment and critiquing to be held at the Filipinas Heritage Library, Makati Avenue from May 7-11. For details, call 892-1801.

Intro to Poetry Writing, a workshop on classical and free verse writing on May 12 at the Loyola House, Ateneo, QC. For details, call 285-2449.

Catch the FHM (For Him Magazine) **100 Sexiest Women in the World Survey** 2001 Bar Tour at Galos, Parañaque (May 18); Aposento, Intramuros (May 19), C2, Makati (May 25); and Nth Degree, Malate (May 26). You can also cast your votes through selected magazine outlets as well as ballots inserted in FHM and Summit Media magazines or fax ballots to 637-2206. Election-inspired paraphernalia like T-shirts, buttons, ballpens and caps will be given to lucky voters. Co-presented by Axe and co-sponsored by San Mig Lite, Jag and Caltex Havoline and Express Lube.

Dansa Studio **Midsummer's Dance Workshop** for children and adults starts on May 7-June 2. Dances offered are ballet, jazz, hiphop, ballroom and aerobics. For details, call 927-1928.

Learn the art of **Japanese cooking and food preparation** at Edisan Restaurant in Mandaluyong every Saturday: Sushi Preparation and Maki Making (May 12 and 26) and Mixed Tempura Making (May 19). For inquiries, call 532-6395.

East West Holistic Center is holding the following activities: **PT/Massage Therapy** for post stroke, arthritis, rheumatism, other muscle skeletal problems available for clinic and home service; DOH Licensure Exam Review for massage therapists (ongoing); Thai Massage Training Workshop (May 16-18); Reflexology Training Workshop (May 22-23). For details, call 712-7750.

Meg & FWD Circle of 20, a model search open to males and females, 13-22 years old, high school or college level, with good looks and captivating personality. Deadline for application is May 18. For details, call 631-2859 locals 18, 16 or 24.

The Makati Eye Laser Center announces its new **German laser technology** for refractive surgery that guarantees 20/10 vision. The Center is located at Alegria Building, 2229 Pasong Tamo, Makati. For details, call 813-0343 and 893-1152.

"Lady and the Tramp 2 Scamp's Adventure," the sequel to the Disney classic "Lady and the Tramp" is now available on video at all Video City, Astrovision, SM outlets and other video stores.

Value Weekday Treats, Alabang Town Center's weekly store sales offer big discounts from participating establishments; ongoing until July 12. Also, exchange receipts for cool and exciting gifts.

X-manila

Camp Cricket for boys and girls 8 to 14 on May 19-21 at the Forest Club Bay, Laguna. Activities include survival skills, fishing, hiking, swimming, field trips, arts and crafts, outdoor games, stargazing, face painting, and a trolley adventure. For details, call 729-9106 and 726-8506.

The Intensive Journal, a six-day retreat from May 7-12 at Maryknoll Ecological Sanctuary, Campo Sioco, Baguio City. For details, call (074) 442-4602 or e-mail mscbag@mozcom.com.

Seven Suites launches **Celebrate Antipolo** and treats residents of the city to free drink and dessert when they dine at the hotel and present proof of residence A guest saxophone player will serenade guests with jazz music at the hotel's upper deck dining area.

Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority presents Dramatis Personae's **"Life Is a Dream"** on May 11-13 at the Subic Bay Arts Center. For inquiries, call 724-2132.

Peace Advocate Zamboanga is sponsoring a **Children's Summer Peace Camp** on May 7-11, Ebenezer Bible College, Zamboanga City for children 10-14. For details, call (062) 992-3086.

The **Sunday Inquirer Magazine** welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules and tickets. You can reach us by e-mail at sim@inquirer.com.ph or by fax at 897-4811.